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ARCHIVES OF MARYLAND

Edited by BERNARD C. STEINER.

Published by authority of the State

VOLUME XLIV (Assembly Series, Volume 21)

PROCEEDINGS AND ACTS OF THE ASSEMBLY (1745-1747)

This volume of the Archives is now ready for distribution. The attention of members of the Society who do not now receive the Archives is called to the liberal provision made by the Legislature, which permits the Society to furnish to its own members copies of the volumes, as they are published from year to year, at the mere cost of paper, presswork, and binding. This cost is at present fixed at one dollar, at which price members of the Society may obtain one copy of each volume published. For additional copies, a price of three dollars is charged.

This volume carries on the legislative records of the Province for three years of petty bickering and faultfinding between the Governor and the representatives of the people. In 1745, several popular bills were vetoed by Governor Bladen who had lost his hold upon the Assembly and, forgetting his dignity, scolded the Delegates. On their part, they were fussily insistent upon their privileges. The main object of summoning the new Assembly in 1745 was to secure an appropriation for the garrison at Louisbourg on Cape Breton Island—a fortress recently brilliantly captured by the New England provincial troops and the British fleet. The Lower House tacked on to a bill for this purpose a provision for a Provincial Agent in London. The Upper House denounced this tacking and, as the Lower House refused to recede from its position, the bill failed. The proceedings as to three contested elections are of interest, and a large number of yea and nay votes are recorded, which afford a method of ascertaining that the Eastern Shore and Annapolis generally belonged to the Proprietary Party, while Southern Maryland was Anti-Proprietary. In March, 1745/6, another new Assembly met, summoned because of the Jacobite Rebellion in England and of the fear that the Iroquois might shift their alliance to the French, but nothing was done.

The Assembly again met in June, 1746 and failed to pass bills for the purchase of arms and ammunition, for the regulation of officer's fees, and for the administration of bankrupt's affairs, owing to dissension. Ordinaries were directed to be taxed to provide funds to carry on the war in Canada. In November a brief session passed a law for the purchase of provisions for the troops raised in the Province. Governor Samuel Ogle returned to Maryland and, succeeding Bladen as governor, met with the Assembly in May 1747. A long session of nearly two months resulted in the passage of twenty-eight acts, some of which were of very considerable importance: such as an assize law for trial of matters of fact in the county where they may arise and a tobacco inspection law, which was included in a measure for the regulation of official fees. A tax was also laid on tobacco exported so as to purchase arms and ammunition and another tax for the use of the Governor. The sale of strong liquors, the running of horse races and the tumultuous concourse of negroes during the Quaker Yearly Meetings on West and Tred Avon Rivers were forbidden. A two day session in December 1747, was fruitless, as the Delegates refused to make an appropriation for the war. At each session, the question of setting apart the western part of the Province as Frederick County came up, but was not yet settled.

A brief appendix contains, among other documents, a petition from Elkridge, showing how little men had a vision of Baltimore Town's growth, and a quasi passport to four Germans wishing to return to Europe for a visit.

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL MAGAZINE

VOL. XXI.

JUNE, 1926.

No. 2.

LETTERS OF MOLLY AND HETTY TILGHMAN.

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY GOSSIP OF TWO MARYLAND GIRLS.

EDITED BY J. HALL PLEASANTS.

(Continued from Vol. XXI, 1, p. 39.)

Since the appearance of the first instalment of these *Letters* in the March number of the *Magazine*, the editor's attention has been called to certain facts which make him feel that the correspondence begins a year or two earlier than was supposed. It will be recalled that Letter I, undated, describing the wedding of Colonel Joseph Forman and Polly Hemsley, was given the date 1783 or 1784. The editor is informed that the family Bible, which formerly belonged to General Benjamin Chambers of Kent County, containing many Forman entries, states that this marriage took place at Cloverfields in 1782. It seems quite possible that Letters II and III may also have been written as early as the year 1782.

The editor is indebted to several readers who have sent him notes of interest upon persons mentioned in the letters. These will be printed at the conclusion of the series.

VI

Thursday Morning [1785?]

Tho' I knew that the Turkey pointers⁴⁰ were going off this Morning, yet credit me my dear Polly, it never till this moment occur'd to me, that you wou'd have the pleasure of their Company. My forgetfulness wou'd be rather extraordinary if I had not been much engag'd lately. Yesterday week we were agreeably surpris'd by the arrival of Uncle and Aunt Tilghman.⁴¹ They left us on Tuesday, accompanied by Sister Nancy, who contriv'd to creep into the Chariot with them, a post that (if it were possible) I wou'd fain have occupied. Nobody is more ingenious than myself in planning excursions. Wou'd that I was equally expert in executing them, but there it must be own'd I fail, which my being here at this time is a proof of, for I was determin'd upon going to Talbot with Billy.⁴² Tommy⁴³ went to Rock Hall yesterday, in hopes of getting to Baltimore time enough to let Tench cross the Bay with Nancy and Mrs Carrol,⁴⁴ which he cou'd not do unless Tommy was in the Counting House.

⁴⁰ The "Turkey Pointers" cannot be certainly identified. The rent rolls show tracts of this name in Cecil, Talbot and Dorchester Counties.

⁴¹ "Uncle and aunt Tilghman" were probably the Honorable Matthew Tilghman (1718-1790), the distinguished Maryland statesman, of Bayside, Talbot County, and his wife Anna Lloyd (1723-1794), parents of Major Lloyd Tilghman, who had married the writer's sister Elizabeth.

⁴² "Billy" is William Tilghman (1756-1827), the writer's brother, afterwards Chief Justice of Pennsylvania. He was a member of the Maryland Convention to ratify the Federal Constitution; represented Kent County in the Maryland Assembly 1788-1790, and was a member of the Maryland State Senate, 1791-1792. In 1793 he removed to Philadelphia, where after holding various judicial positions he was made Chief Justice of Pennsylvania in 1806. He married, July 1, 1794, Margaret Elizabeth Allen of Philadelphia, who died September 9, 1798, leaving one child, Elizabeth Tilghman (died June 17, 1817), who married Benjamin Chew (1793-1864) a son of Benjamin Chew (1758-1844), and a grandson of Chief Justice Benjamin Chew (1722-1810).

⁴³ "Tommy" was Thomas Ringgold Tilghman, born August 17, 1765, died unmarried December 29, 1789, the writer's youngest brother.

⁴⁴ "Mrs. Carrol" was Mrs. Charles Carroll, née Margaret Tilghman, the

Our family is now reduc'd almost to nothing. If you cou'd be here how happy wou'd it make me. Set your wits to work my dear Polly, and try if you can bring it about. You need not be afraid of having your head turn'd with gaiety. Assemblies and Balls are done with, and the general Court has drawn all our Beaux away. An inviting prospect you will say. However your loving Cousins still remain, and you may be sure of often eating Beef with them in the greatest perfection and variety. Betsy⁴⁵ Worrell was married last Thursday and so superb a Wedding was never seen here. A number of most elegant Cloaths, 6 Brides Men and Maids.⁴⁶ Miss Wor-

daughter of the Honorable Matthew Tilghman (1718-1790), and the widow of Charles Carroll, Barrister (1723-1783), of Mount Clare, Baltimore, the distinguished Maryland statesman and the author of the Maryland Bill of Rights.

⁴⁵ "Betsy Worrell" is Ann Elizabeth Worrell, the daughter of William and Ann Worrell of Fairy Meadow, Kent Co., and the sister of Dr. Edward Worrell (1753-1804). The letter is undated and the exact date of her marriage is uncertain. She married as his second wife Capt. John Hyland, Jr. (1746-1815) of Cecil and later of Kent Co. A chart pedigree of the Hyland family in the Historical Society gives the date of the marriage as Dec. 17, 1786, which is obviously incorrect, as Col. Tench Tilghman, mentioned in the letter, died April 18, 1786. Furthermore, Polly says the marriage took place on Thursday, while Dec. 17th, 1786, fell on Tuesday. Mrs. Ann Elizabeth (Worrell) Hyland died in 1826, leaving three children, viz. William, Stephen and Sarah W. Hyland.

⁴⁶ "The 6 Brides Men and Maids." It would appear that there were six bridesmen and six bridesmaids and that Molly enumerated only the latter. (1) "*Miss Worrell*" is doubtless one of the two elder of the bride's four sisters, Ann, Mary, Francina and Sarah. Ann died unmarried in 1819. Mary married about this time William Pearce of Kent Co. Sarah married John Wroth. (2) *Miss "Van Dyke"* was certainly Sarah, the daughter of Dr. Thomas Van Dyke (d. 1787) of Kent, as her sister Mary Elizabeth Wilhelmina was too young at this date to have served. Dr. Van Dyke married Mary (1742-1796) the daughter of Richard Graves of Buck Neck, Kent Co. Sarah Van Dyke married a year or two later Dr. Andrew Wiesenthal (1762-1798), a prominent Baltimore physician, leaving issued by him (see also footnote 102). (3) *Miss "Gresham"* was doubtless either Maria or Ann, daughters of Richard Gresham (died 1780) of Gresham's College, Kent Co. (4) *Miss "Barroll"* was one of the three daughters of the Rev. William Barroll (1734-1778), rector of St. Stephen's parish, Cecil Co., and his wife Ann Williamson, the latter a wid-

rell, Van Dyke, Gresham, Barrol, Gordon, and Lukit. Between fifty and sixty people were present at the Ceremony, who danc'd till 4 o'clock. Some of the Company retir'd at twelve being afraid (I suppose) of injuring their healths by keeping such riotous hours. They kept up the Ball till Monday, and then went to middle Neck, accompanied by 6 Carriages well filled. The Bride and Brides groom led the Van in a new Phaeton. Give my Love to Aunt Pearce, and tell her she is very cruel in her accusation of "out of sight out of mind." I have the happiness of being conscious that the saying is not applicable to me in regard to her, and if she cou'd look into my heart she wou'd be convince'd of it. I must beg leave to remind her that I only promis'd to write to her while sister Betsy and Dicky Relpé were ill, for I plainly told her that I had not genius enough to produce Letters, unless she would answer me now and then. I shall be happy if she will accept of my Correspondence on the above terms but if she does not like them. I shall be compelled to silence, thro' very poverty of invention. Aunt T[ilghman] says that Henny is quite well, and has grown fat, not partially so, which, I was glad to hear. If it were pos-

ow then living in Chestertown. These three daughters were: Ann Barroll, born Sept. 16, 1762; Sarah Barroll, born Sept. 25, 1769, who married, June 17, 1806, as his first wife Richard Frisly (1777-1845) of Fairlee, Kent Co., and died s. p.; Abigail Barroll. (5) Miss "*Gordon*" is one of the elder daughters of Charles Gordon (1721-1786), a Scotchman, who came to Maryland about 1750 and practiced law in Kent Co. He was a Tory. He married twice. By his first wife, Alice George, he had a daughter, Mary Gordon who married, probably prior to this date, a Captain Veazey, and d. s. p. It seems probable that the bridesmaid was one of the elder daughters by his second wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Col. Joseph Nicholson of Chestertown, whom he married, Dec. 26, 1764, and by whom he had issue: (a) Hannah, b. Nov. 6, 1765, mar. James McLean; (b) Elizabeth Ann, mar. about 1789, as his first wife, Judge Thomas Worrell (a first cousin of the bride Betsey Worrell); (c) Sarah Nicholson, b. 1768; (d) Anna Maria, b. Jan. 7, 1771, mar. Dec. 4, 1796, as his second wife Judge Thomas Worrell; (e) Alice, d. in childhood; (f) Joseph Nicholson, b. Oct. 9, 1775; (g) John, d. in childhood; (h) Capt. Charles, b. Nov. 14, 1778, U. S. Navy. (6) Miss "*Lukit*" cannot be identified. No family of this name appears on the Eastern Shore in the Census of 1790.

sible, I wou'd wish that it be defered for one twelve Month at least. I had no business to begin this page, for it is ten to one that my cousins have given me the slip.

With my love to all, believe me
truly yours

M. T.

VII

Tuesday Morning [Spring of 1785]

I was put almost out of my wits with joy yesterday by receiving a packet from England, a pleasure which I have long expected with the utmost impatience, and anxiety. My joy was in some measure check'd at finding that my Brother Dick⁴⁷ was actually gone to India.

He writes on the 11th of January, a few hours before he set off for the Downs where he was to embark. He says that his health is quite confirm'd, and his prospects very advantageous, but I still wish that he had remain'd in England. I cannot get over my fears of the fatal Climate of Bengal. He sends us some Shawls, Muslin, and other things, which are in Philad^a.

He sends one of the Shawls to Grandmamma [Francis], which I am very glad of, for I am sure such a proof of his affection, and remembrance will be pleasing to her. The most trifling things are valuable from those we love.

I have a long Letter from Phil,⁴⁸ who is still at Plymouth with

⁴⁷ "Brother Dick" is Richard Tilghman, born December 17, 1746, died unmarried, November 24, 1796. All that is definitely known about him is learned from these letters. He is thought to have been a Tory in his sympathies, and seems at this time to have been engaged in the East India trade, in which he is said to have made a fortune.

⁴⁸ "Phil" is Philemon Tilghman, born November 29, 1760, died January 11, 1797. He was an officer in the British Navy. He had married, previous to this date, Harriet Milbanke, daughter of Admiral Mark Milbanke, R.N. His return to Maryland is referred to in later letters. A fuller sketch will be found in footnote 123.

Admiral Millbank. He is very well, and writes in his usual wild way. He says he is in high spirits at having just heard that I was on the recovery, when he fear'd a very different account. He cou'd not have given me a more flattering reason for his gaiety. I will not apologize to you my dear Polly, for saying so much about my Brothers. If I know your heart, your feelings wou'd be similar to mine on the like occasion, and you can allow for my indulging myself on a Subject, which is so interesting to me.

There is always a mixture of melancholy in the pleasure I receive of getting Letters from England. They forcibly remind me that my Brothers are far, far, distant, that there is a thousand chances against my ever seeing either of them again, and that at best, a long time must elapse before such an event can take place. But I am growing too serious, and will therefore change the subject for one that you can at present relish better than myself, which is the play that the Collegians⁴⁹ are to act next at the comencement. After much debate and irresolution, they have at last fix'd on the tragedy of Atoners,⁵⁰ and Billy Hemsley is to act the princess Ormisinda. I dare say you will make a point of being here on the occasion when I tell you that Mike Earle⁵¹ is to represent Maria, the Heroine of the farce, which is to be the Citizen.⁵² Figure to yourself my dear

⁴⁹ The "Collegians" referred to are the students of Washington College, Chestertown, the corner-stone of which had been laid in 1783. The president at this time was the Rev. William Smith, afterwards provost of the University of Pennsylvania.

⁵⁰ The "Tragedy of Atoners" has not been identified and may not be the correct title of the play. The "Billy Hemsley" who was to take the part of "Ormisinda" was William Helmsley (1766-1825), the son of William Helmsley, M. C. (1736-1812) of Cloverfields, and a brother of Polly Hemsley, whose wedding is described in letter I; he took his A. B. at Washington College in 1785. (See footnote 4.)

⁵¹ The farce "The Citizen," by Arthur Murphy, first performed at Drury Lane Theatre, London in 1761, had been given at the New Theatre in Baltimore, Jan. 29, 1782, by Mr. Wall's company.

⁵² "Mike Earle," who took the part of the heroine, was Michael the son of James Earle (1734-1810) of Queen Anne Co.; he was a first cousin of Polly Pearce. (See footnote 7.)

Polly, that antique face of his, for a blooming young Girl just from the Boarding School. It will really be too farcical.

You were fortunate in being at Church when the Bride and her train made their pompous entry.⁵³ It is astonishing to me that persons in her situation can have the firmness to provoke the eyes of a Crowded Church, by so much parade and finery. She ought to be answerable for the envy which she rais'd in many a heart by her splendor. I fancy devotion gave place to mere earthly admiration in most of the Congregation. If I was in the humour, and if it was prudent I cou'd give you some curious Anecdotes of the Wedding, but for both reasons I must defer them till I see you.

I am sorry to hear that Aunt Pearce is not well. I wish she wou'd ride down and see me. It wou'd do her good, and give me great pleasure. Do propose it to her.

The weather is most delightful.

I hear George enquiring for my Letter, so I must bid you adieu.

M. T.

VIII

Bay Side August 5 [1785]

I had begun to think my dear Polly, that I was entirely forgotten by all the World beyond twenty Miles of this place, when two Days ago I receiv'd a charming Packet of Letters among which was one from your Ladyship, for which you will accept my thanks in due form.

How unlucky was I in not being able to see Aunt Pearce. I manœuvred a thousand ways to bring it about but my evil genius prevail'd and as I was not happy enough (any more than yourself) to be mistress of an air Balloon, I was oblig'd to give the matter up.

I have lately spent ten days at Perry Tilghmans⁵⁴ very agree-

⁵³ There is no clue to whose wedding this refers.

⁵⁴ "Perry Tilghman" is Col. Peregrine Tilghman (1741-1807) of Hope, Talbot Co., a first cousin of the writer; he was the son of Col. Richard

ably. I return'd last Sunday. Never say I want resolution after the adventures of that day. In the first place I broil'd 6 Miles by Water, to the Bay Side Church in such a sun, it was enough to coddle common flesh. I was then so stupified with old Gordons ⁵⁵ slow croaking, that I began to dream a dozen times before the Sermon was over, and finally I got into the Chariot with Aunt Tilghman, ⁵⁶ who met me by appointment, and encountered a perpetual Cloud of Dust, which prevented our seeing the Horses Heads or speaking a word lest we shou'd be choak'd. I came off alive it's true but suffer'd so much in the battle, that I have made a Vow to say my prayers at home till it rains, which I begin to think it never will again. .

How often my dear Polly do I wish for you, particularly when the walking hour arrives, and I sally out by myself. O this Henny ⁵⁷ of ours is the saddest Creature you can conceive. If she drags her bloated self to the Wind Mill, she thinks so prodigious an exertion entitles her to groan and complain the whole Evening, till nine o'Clock, when she departs, and is seen no more till the next morning. Now is it not a melancholy

Tilghman (1705-1766) of the Hermitage. He married Deborah Lloyd, daughter of Col. Robert Lloyd (1712-1770) of Hope, and his wife Anna Maria Tilghman.

⁵⁵ "Old Gordon" is the Rev. John Gordon, a native of Scotland, ordained in 1745. He was at first Rector of St. Anne's, Annapolis, from 1745 to 1749, but in 1750 became Rector of St. Michael's, Talbot Co., referred to here as the Bay Side Church, where he remained until his death, which occurred in 1789 or 1790, at the age of 70.

⁵⁶ "Aunt Tilghman" was probably Mrs. Matthew Tilghman, née Anna Lloyd (1723-1794), the mother of Molly's brother-in-law Lloyd Tilghman of Bay Side, with whom she was then staying.

⁵⁷ "Henny" is course, the writer's sister Henrietta Maria, the wife of Lloyd Tilghman. Their eldest child Anna Tilghman was born a few months later, December 31, 1785. It may be as well to enumerate here the known children of Lloyd Tilghman and his wife. The order of birth of only the three eldest is known. (1) Anna Tilghman, b. Dec. 31, 1785; mar. (as his second wife) John Tilghman of Centreville. (2) Henriette Maria Tilghman, b. Mar. 30, 1787, mar. Alexander Hemsley. (3) Mary Tilghman, b. Jan. 15, 1789, probably d. in childhood. (4) James Tilghman, b. Feb. 5, 1793, mar. Ann Schoemaker of Philadelphia. (5) Lloyd Tilghman. (6) Matthew Tilghman. (7) Elizabeth Tilghman, d. in infancy.

thing to see a young person give themselves up to such horrid ways, because they are married? I declare it robs me of all patience. I again repeat, O that you were here What charming tete a tete walks shou'd I have. A fine Lady wou'd expire at the Idea of a female tete a tete, but you have been some what us'd to such sort of things, and will therefore bear it. It is a selfish wish in me too, for, what signifies lying—this place is cruelly lonesome. I am not averse to a decent portion of solitude, but it is possible to have too much of the best thing. I am sometimes worried to death with seeing nobody. I believe I have committed an Irishism, but no matter. Alas! my dear Poly the Country is no longer an Arcadia, where a gentle Shepherd is to be met with under every shady Tree. The sports of the green are no more, or at least I met with none of them.

The only Beau within my reach is the serene Hugh⁵⁸ of Huntingdon, and I am sure he is what the Philosophers have so long been in search of, a perfect Vacuum. If you shou'd stumble on any of the learned tribe, pray send them to me, and I will conduct them to our neighbour. After these my complaints, you will not wonder at receiving no entertainment from my Letter. News, which is the life of Correspondence, is a Commodity not dealt in here. What on earth cou'd induce you to ask me about Mat Tilghman's⁵⁹ Wedding. It was really sending from New Castle for Coals. Why Child, are you not

⁵⁸ "The serene Hugh of Huntingdon" is Hugh Sherwood of Huntingdon, Talbot Co. From the reference to him here and in later letters he does not seem to have found favor in Molly's eyes. It is probably the same Hugh Sherwood for whose marriage to an unidentified Elizabeth Tilghman a Talbot Co. license was issued Dec., 1795.

⁵⁹ "Mat Tilghman" is Matthew Tilghman (born June 5, 1760), son of Edward Tilghman (1713-1786) of Wye, Queen Anne Co., by his third wife Julianna Carroll. He was a first cousin both of the writer and the recipient of this letter. He was speaker of the House of Delegates in 1791. He married, probably in 1785, Sarah, the daughter of Thomas Smyth (1730-1819), of Trumpington, a wealthy resident of Kent Co. Their eldest child Edward Tilghman was born July 20, 1786, and died Dec. 6, 1860. They had two other children, Henry and Sarah Tilghman.

in the high road of intelligence? eight negotiating Letters in your hands at once, and yet ask information of me. You have certainly lost your wits, or know not how to make use of them which is much the same thing.

If you have receiv'd the threat'ned visit you were a fool for acting the speaking Trumpet for nothing. I'll engage I wou'd have cleft her ears with so many direct questions, that she wou'd have been glad to let me into the secret for Peace sake. Sister Betsy tells me that the tea Tables at Chester Town are oblig'd to Miss Piner for furnishing them with conversation, three Weeks have beheld Mr Bordley ⁶⁰ at the feet of the languishing fair, and it is fear'd she will at last banish him. She may now boast of subduing the extremes of Stupidity and brilliancy in her new and old admirer, from which we may conclude that a medium will at last be her choice. I wonder she does not like Mr B. they have both so large a portion of the attic Salt that they might be flint and steel to each other. So Harry ⁶¹ is at last to be happy. I commend the Lady for not surrendering at the first summons—that wou'd have been cowardly indeed and I commend him as much for not being dis-

⁶⁰ "Miss Piner" and "Mr. Bordley" have not been certainly identified. But the former was probably either Sarah or Mary Piner, daughters of Mrs. Sarah Piner, the widow of Thomas Piner of Kent Co. Sarah Piner died unmarried in 1826. Mary Piner married about 1787 Joseph Wickes of Kent Co. "Mr. Bordley" was probably John Beale Bordley, Jr. (1764-1815), usually known simply as John Bordley, son of the distinguished John Beale Bordley, Sr. (1727-1804). The latter lived successively in Annapolis, in Joppa, Baltimore Co., on Wye Island, Queen Anne Co., and in Philadelphia where he spent his last years. It is not believed that "Mr. Bordley" was successful in his suit, although it is learned from later letters (see Letter XI) that he married not long afterwards. It is certain, however, that he married secondly Aug. 2, 1798, in Baltimore, Catherine Starck, the daughter of Gen. Benjamin N. Starck. John Bordley, his second wife and his father-in-law are buried at his plantation on Worton Creek, Kent Co. (See also footnotes 85, 132 and 158.)

⁶¹ "Harry" is, of course, Henry Ward Pearce, Jr. (1760-1805), whose engagement is here announced to Anna Maria Tilghman (1759-1834) the daughter of Col. Richard Tilghman (1705-1766) of the Hermitage—see footnotes 2 and 8.

hearten'd at one, two, or three repulses. So you are not for a long siege, very well Polly some day or other those words shall rise in judgment against you, depend on it. At present remember me to all yours, and Mr and Mrs Earle. My poor name is fairly distanc'd.

Johnny Francis ⁶² is going to be married to a Miss Brown of Rhode Island. Peggy Chew ⁶³ says so, and that the Wedding is to be soon, these young Spriggs are all marrying.

[M. T.]

Miss Pearce
At James Tilghman's Esq^r
Chester Town.

IX

Wednesday Night [Oct. 11, 1785]

I almost wish, my dear Polly, that Johnny [Relfe] had not just called to tell me that Billy Barroll ⁶⁴ was going to Cecil tomorrow. If I had not known of the opportunity, you cou'd not have expected to hear from me, and I have been so hard at work all day, that I am almost blind. It was unlucky on Saturday, that Billy had not been gone an hour, before Lloyd and Henny arriv'd. Had you known of her being here, I hope we shou'd have seen you before this, unless you are not well enough,

⁶² "Johnny Francis" is the writer's first cousin John Francis (born 1763), son of Tench Francis, Jr. (1730-1800) of Philadelphia and his wife Anne Willing, but the marriage did not take place until March, 1788, when he married Abby, daughter of the Hon. John Brown, the leading merchant of Providence, R. I. Their son John Brown Francis (1791-1844) became Governor of Rhode Island and U. S. Senator.

⁶³ "Peggy Chew" is Peggy Oswald Chew (1760-1824), the daughter of Chief Justice Benjamin Chew of Philadelphia. She married, May 18, 1787, Gen. John Eager Howard of "Belvedere," Baltimore. (See footnote 98.)

⁶⁴ "Billy Barroll" is William Barroll (1764-1834), the eldest son of the Rev. William Barroll, Rector of St. Stephen's parish, Cecil Co., and his wife Anne Williamson. The latter, at this time a widow, was living in Chestertown. William Barroll married 1st, 1788 Lucretia Edmondson and 2nd, Sarah Hands, leaving issue by both wives (see footnote 46).

which I am not willing to think is the case. Henny leaves us on Monday and she begs you will try to come, if it is but for one day. I heartily join in the same request, for exclusive of the pleasure of seeing you, I think the ride wou'd do you good. She has been to all the Stores today, hunting for Dimitty, for a Cloak, Mantle and various little uses, which has tir'd her so much, that she begs you will excuse her not writing. I suppose we must make allowances for her state, and condition, which is really immense. She and Miss T.⁶⁵ are at my Elbow, amusing themselves with a sober game at Piquet.

Uncle Ned [Tilghman] ⁶⁶ died on Monday Afternoon [Oct. 9, 1785]. My father, and Lloyd, went to Wye on Sunday, and are not yet return'd. I dare say, the family there, (after the shock which the death of a parent must occasion) will feel happier than they have been for this Month past. To see a person one loves suffering for a length of time, when there is not the most distant hope of their recovery, must be worse than death itself. Poor Mrs Cadwalader ⁶⁷ has been al-

⁶⁵ "Miss T." is probably applied facetiously to the writer's sister "Nancy" or Anna Maria Tilghman.

⁶⁶ "Uncle Ned" is Col. Edward Tilghman (1713-1786) of Wye, Queen Anne Co. He was High Sheriff and Justice of Queen Anne Co., Speaker of the House, Keeper of the Rolls for the Eastern Shore, and had been a member of the Stamp Act Congress. He had married three times: first Anna Maria, daughter of Maj. William Turbutt; second Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Chew of Dover, Delaware, and third Juliana, daughter of Dominic Carroll. He was the father of ten children, leaving issue by all three wives.

⁶⁷ "Mrs. Cadwalader" is Williamina, the second wife of Gen. John Cadwalader, formerly of Pennsylvania, but at this time of Kent Co., Md. Gen. Cadwalader died Feb. 11, 1786. He was the son of Dr. Thomas Cadwalader of Philadelphia. He married first, Oct., 1768, Elizabeth Lloyd (born Jan. 10, 1742), daughter of Col. Edward Lloyd of Wye, Talbot Co., and had a daughter Maria (1776-1811), who married Gen. Samuel Ringgold. Gen. Cadwalader married second, Jan. 30, 1779, Williamina Bond (born 1753), daughter of Dr. Phineas Bond, Sr. (1717-1773) of Philadelphia and a sister of Phineas Bond, Jr. (1749-1816), at this time British Consul. Gen. Cadwalader had three children by this second marriage, (1) Thomas (1779-1841), (2) Francis (1781-1843), (3) John (1784-1785.)

most at the point of death, and is still very ill. About a Week ago she had a dead Child, a Month before she expected. They sent for her Mother on Sunday. Do my dear Polly, try to come down before Monday. It will be a long time before Henny comes up again, and you find by experience, that it is difficult for you to see her at the Bay side. I shall probably go to Baltimore soon, and I wou'd like to see you before I go. I suppose you have heard that your fathers new Horse took the Purse at Annapolis.⁶⁸ General Cad[walader] made a good bargain, as it has turn'd out.

With my love to all believe me ever yours.

M. Tilghman

Miss Pearce
Poplar Neck
Mr Barroll

X

Chester Town April 13 [1786]

Why my dear Polly what lamentable complaints do you make of my long and cruel silence, as you are pleas'd to term it. The attack was quite unexpected, as you have seen from my last Letter. Indeed you are very saucy—much more so than I am. As we have been equally (yes, equally) negligent, the same consciousness that prevented my accusation, ought to have re-

⁶⁸ "The purse at Annapolis." This refers to the Annapolis races which had been revived March 1, 1783, by the Jockey Club, and which had been suspended during the Revolution. Among the members of the re-organized club were Henry Ward Pearce, Sr. and Gen. John Cadwalader. The *Maryland Gazette* for Oct. 13, 1785 contains these items: "Annapolis, Oct. 13—On Thursday last [Oct. 6] the jockey club purse of 100 guineas was run over the course near this city and was won by Mr. Pearce's horse 'Hotspur.'" This is followed by a later note in the same issue, "Yesterday [Oct. 12] afternoon a match was run over the course near this city for 100 guineas by Mr. Hamersley's brown horse Spry and Mr. Pearce's grey horse Hotspur, which was won by Spry." Molly had heard of the victory of Hotspur, but did not suspect that he was to lose to Spry the day after she wrote these lines.

strain'd yours. But it was my bad example that kept you from writing—really an excellent reason. I am sorry tho' that you had not time to frame a better one—but hurry is a great enemy to invention. You are very ready to plead my example when it suits you but I cou'd never get you to copy me in writing twice a Week, as I have done more than once. I know some people will say that you shew'd your Wisdom by preferring the last imitation to the first, my own family, for instance, whose complaint of the length of my unlucky epistles, prove them to be the most ungrateful, and provoking Creatures in the World. You may credit me that all of them made me promise to write particularly, by every oportunity, public and private and well do they repay me for keeping my promise, tho a squalling Child, and Lady in the straw, were often my only subjects. Pleasant ones you'll say, so pleasant that you may well be discontented at my not having treated you with them, and reasonably conclude that my silence proceeded from particular unknown reasons. True, it did so, and to your never failing penetration I leave it to find them out.

I saw Harry the other day as he pass'd thro' Town, and he made your apologies of fatigue, and indisposition. As you are not easily fatigued, I conclude that the bridal trappings⁶⁹ have been very numerous. As you are fond of variety, perhaps you were sick at the thoughts of being engag'd in the same dull business some time hence, for a person rather nearer to you. Was that the case? Don't droop at the thoughts of a repetition. If you will let me be an assistant Minister I will so exert my genius that you shall not quarrell with the affair for being without variations. Your desire to see me, my dear Polly, cannot exceed mine to see you, and sorry am I to tell you that I have no near prospect of seeing you at Poplar Neck. If you are serious in not wishing to make one of Sally Thompson's⁷⁰

⁶⁹ "The bridal trappings" may refer to the marriage of Henry Ward Pearce, Jr., the exact date of which, however, has not been learned.

⁷⁰ "Sally Thompson" has not been identified with certainty, although it is obvious that she is about to marry a former admirer of Polly Pearce.

train, what can prevent your making me a visit. I shall next Week be again quite alone and as the Bride will be so well attended you may oblige both me and yourself by making a friendly visit an excuse for your absence. I am sure nobody cou'd object to it and I don't see how you can avoid being at the Wedding (and of course being teaz'd with a great deal of not very delicate banter) any other way. You may depend on my being very good, if you will be candid. If you are not, why you must take the consequences. I think I have some talents for a Confidante, and I flatter myself that your thinking so too, is one of the many reasons for which you want to see me. O that you were here at this moment what a charming tete a tete cou'd we have—but alas, wishing is of no avail.

Tho' Nancy Pearce⁷¹ spent a day and a night with us, she was not able to give me any particulars of her jaunt to Cecil, so that Mr Rumsey's⁷² brilliancy is quite new to me.

The house was full all the time she was here. If I had wanted inducements to visit Poplar Neck such entertainments wou'd have been very powerful ones—but you forgot a still greater attraction, the ever agreeable Major Forman.⁷³ I am more

She may have been a member of the distinguished Thompson family of Cecil and Queen Anne Counties. It seems less probable that she was the daughter of the Rev. William Thompson, the former Rector of North Sassafras (St. Stephen's) and Augustine parishes, Cecil Co., who had died the year before; Henry Ward Pearce, Sr. and Michael Earle both went on the bond of his widow Susanna Thompson. (See footnote 94.)

⁷¹ "Nancy Pearce" has not been identified with certainty, but was probably one of the numerous first cousins of Polly Pearce then living in Cecil Co.

⁷² "Mr. Rumsey" cannot be identified with certainty but was unquestionably a member of the well-known Cecil County family of that name, of which James Rumsey (c. 1743-1792), the inventor of the steamboat, and Judge Benjamin Rumsey (1735-1808) of Baltimore County, were conspicuous members.

⁷³ "Major Forman" is Major Thomas Marsh Forman (1758-1845) of Cecil and Queen Anne Counties, the son of Ezekiel Forman (1736-1795) and his wife Augustina Thompson Marsh. Major Forman served with distinction in the Revolutionary war. He had a daughter Delia, born March 4, 1788 and died September 16, 1825, who married in 1805 the

than commonly anxious to see him since his late modest and generous declaration that "he is to be bought" and that the price of so precious a heart is only 20 thousand pounds. There's humility and moderation for you. Cou'd nothing have purchas'd him, but merit equal to his own, then indeed might every Spinster have despair'd, for even in this land flowing with Belles, his equal is not to be found. The moment that I draw the high prize in the Lottery I shall fly to Swan Harbour, and get my good friend Mr Earle to negociate with the sprightly Youth for me. I am almost afraid of him too, when I recollect that he has the Spectator at his fingers ends, and makes such apt Quotations from it, on every occasion, and subject, that I shou'd be perfectly awed by his superior knowledge. I blame myself for telling you so much about him, as it now impossible that he can be any thing to you—besides a comparison between him, and your musical friend, wou'd be no great advantage to the Latter. By the way, what is become of your Swain? He was expected here about this time but he has not made his appearance. I avow my impatience to see him because as things are, prudery herself could not attribute my curiosity to interested motives.

I forgot whether I wrote you that there were regular Assemblies in Talbot all the Winter. The Miss Lloyds⁷⁴ went constantly, but as my visit to Henny was entirely a nursing one I took no Ball Cloaths with me which I was sorry for, when I stay'd so much longer than I expected. I know so few of the belles, and Beaux of my native County, that I shou'd like to have seen an assemblage of their Beauty, finery and gallantry. Let it be recorded that the most striking figure there was Anna Goldsborough⁷⁵ in a most fanciful and becoming

Hon. Joseph Bryan. There is a record of his marriage, May 19, 1814, at Christiana, New Castle, Delaware, to Mrs. Martha Brown (Ogle) Callender.

⁷⁴ "The Miss Lloyds" were probably the four sisters, Anna, Elizabeth, Henrietta Maria and Deborah, the daughters of James Lloyd (1716-1768) of Parsons Landing, Talbot Co., and his wife Elizabeth Sewell (*Md. Hist. Mag.*, VIII, 86).

⁷⁵ "Anna Goldsborough" born 1765, the daughter of Nicholas Golds-

Figur Hat, of Wilmington manufacture, I suppose. However she pass'd it off for the ton tho' I did not hear that any body presum'd to imitate it.

Willy Goldsborough,⁷⁶ her Husband and two sons came up a Week ago. The Dorset air seems to agree with her, better than with her spouse who has been confin'd ever since he came. Her eldest Branch is most pitiably like the Dauphins family. The Turkey pointers are to be up in a few days, to spend 3 or 4 Weeks at this place. I must pay them the usual attentions but mercy on my ears, and lungs. My dear speaking Trumpet I wish you were here to assist me. Poor Anny Smith⁷⁷ is every day expected at her Brother Ned's in Philad^a to lie in, in June. She does not mean to visit Maryland. Polly, Sukey and M^{rs} [Samuel] Chew are going up to see her. I dare say M^{rs} T. cou'd dispense with their company. When my father left Baltimore my Brother [Tench]⁷⁸ was better, tho' still too far

borough (1726-1777) of Talbot Co. She married Dec. 30, 1790, as his second wife John Singleton of Talbot Co. (See footnotes 29 and 169.)

⁷⁶ "Willy Goldsborough" was Williamina Elizabeth (1762-1790), a daughter of the Rev. William Smith (1727-1803), at this time President of Washington College, Chestertown. She married, May 15, 1783, as his first wife, Charles Goldsborough (1761-1801) of Horn's Point, Dorchester Co.

⁷⁷ "Anny Smith" is doubtless Anna Maria Tilghman, a first cousin of the writer, and the daughter of Edward Tilghman (1713-1786) of Wye, Talbot Co., and his second wife Elizabeth, daughter of Chief Justice Samuel Chew of Delaware. She married first, Charles Goldsborough, and second, the Rev. Robert Smith (1732-1801), afterwards Bishop of South Carolina, who was for many years rector of St. Philip's at Charleston, but during the British occupation had left Charleston, and was rector of St. Paul's, Queen Anne Co., Md., between about 1780 and 1783. Her brother Edward Tilghman, Jr. (1751-1815), who was then living in Philadelphia, married Elizabeth, daughter of Chief Justice Benjamin Chew of Pennsylvania. "Polly and Sukey Tilghman" here referred to, were half sisters of "Anny Smith," being the children of Edward Tilghman by his third wife Juliana Carroll. (See footnote 106).

⁷⁸ "My brother" is Col. Tench Tilghman (1744-1786), whose illness is here referred to; he died in Baltimore a few days later, April 18, 1786. Of his distinguished Revolutionary career nothing need be said here. He married in 1783 his first cousin Anna Maria Tilghman (1755-1843), daughter of the Hon. Matthew Tilghman (1718-1790); they had two children,

from being well. I can only say I am not so uneasy about him as I was. Tomorrow we shall hear from him. God grant the accounts may be favorable. Little Peggy ⁷⁹ was inoculated two days before Papa came home. Adieu my dear Polly it will be time enough to finish when I hear of an opportunity to Cecil.

Tuesday Morning

Johnny Relpé ⁸⁰ has promis'd to send this Letter to-morrow by a safe hand. Alas my dear Polly I am too unhappy about poor Tench to write you more than that we had Letters on Saturday, which inform'd us that he was no better but had rather lost strength. My God what his situation this moment [may] be. Indeed, indeed, I fear he is in great danger.

My father went over this Morning, and alone, and a prey to every melancholy conjecture in your affectionate

M. T.

Miss Pearce
Poplar Neck

XI

January 2^d 1787

I am just on the Wing for farly [Fairlee] my dear Polly, but I will leave a few lines against your father comes. I can do no less after your quitting a romp, an amusement you are so fond of, to write to me. Sister Nancy, and Nancy Chew ⁸¹ went to farly [Fairlee] on Thursday, and return'd just now. They left Sister Betsy [Lloyd] and the Children tolerably well. This Christmas has afforded the gay ones of Chester Town

(1) Margaret Tilghman, born 1784, who married a cousin, Tench Tilghman of Hope, Talbot Co., and (2) Elizabeth Tench Tilghman (1786-1852), who married in 1811 Nicholas Goldsborough of Oxford Neck.

⁷⁹ "Little Peggy" was, of course, Margaret, the daughter of Col. Tench Tilghman, referred to in the previous footnote.

⁸⁰ "Johnny Relpé." (See footnote 10.)

⁸¹ "Nancy Chew" is Anna Maria (1749-1812), the daughter of Chief Justice Benjamin Chew of Philadelphia and his first wife Mary Galloway. She was a sister of Mrs. John Galloway, née Sarah Chew, referred to in this same letter. She did not marry. (See footnote 90.)

rather more amusement than was expected from the dulness of the fall. There was a Ball the night after Christmas, which was much indebted to the Major's of Queen Ann's.⁸² The formidable Clealand, the woeful looking Emory, and the handsome Major Smyth. Mrs Galloway⁸³ flash'd upon them in her Muslin dress, attended by her admiring Spouse in his Rock of Gibraltar Coat. They had 16 Couple, and spent a very agreeable Evening. The play came next night, which afforded a few unexpected incidents. Some Bucks of true spirit, which was increas'd by good Liquor, broke open one of the Windows, to the great dismay of the Ladies. As to the play, it exceeded no one's expectations. However the Eyes of the Audience were oblig'd by a vast display of fine cloaths, and Jewels, which more than made up for any faults in the acting. Our Duke, really look'd very handsome, he wore Mat Tilghman's white Sattin waistcoat &c, a black star brilliant with paste, a pink sash and a small Hat ornamented with paste, and fourteen black, and white feathers. Last night it was again represented with the addition of the Irish Widow.⁸⁴ The Ball gave such a spring to the Spirit of our Beaux that they have made up a Subscription for Assemblies, and the first, is to be to-morrow night. It is really provoking my dear Polly, that after staying so long here, you shou'd go away just before the commencement of all this gaiety. However if you will but return, and partake of the remainder, I promise to assist you in decorating yourself to the utmost of my power.

⁸² "The Majors of Queen Anne." The three Majors cannot all be identified with certainty. There was a Major James *Clayland* of Queen Anne Co. (see also footnote 103), but as there were at least three members of the Emory family who were Revolutionary officers, identification of "Major Emory" is difficult. There can be little question, however, that "the handsome Major" was Thomas Smyth.

⁸³ "Mrs. Galloway" was Sarah Chew, daughter of Chief Justice Benjamin Chew of Philadelphia, who had married in Philadelphia, Oct. 23, 1786, John Galloway (d. May 16, 1810) of Tulip Hill, Anne Arundel Co. (See footnote 108.)

⁸⁴ The play "The Irish Widow" was a comedy written by David Garrick 1747, and first performed by him.

Mrs. Bordley⁸⁵ came home a few days ago, after spending a fortnight at the Island with her papa, who has behav'd most graciously. The changes of this World, how rapid. He has given John a tract of Land near farly [Fairlee], Stock and all. Now how will their note be chang'd. Beale's praises will soon be sounded abroad, as ever his faults were. Poor Polly Wright⁸⁶ has been at the point of Death but she is now recovering. One of those terrible lying in fevers. Her Child is a Son. I heard that she sent for Mrs Sewell in her illness. I was delighted to hear of Mrs [Michael] Earle's being much better. Heaven grant that she may continue so. The request is so long an affair that I must defer doing it, till my
as I shall be forc'd to copy it myself. I suppose it is for your fair intended Sister. My Love to your Mamma, Nancy and Peggy. I wish the former wou'd take a ride down, I am sure it wou'd be of Service to her. If she is averse to Company we will go to farly [Fairlee] with . . . Billy⁸⁷ will be there the last of this Week. I must not forget to tell you that poor Ferguson's⁸⁸ fears were realized. In spite of all his animating lessons, Arnold⁸⁹ was as cold as a Cucumber.

⁸⁵ "Mrs. Bordley." In footnote 60, reference has been made to John Beale Bordley, Jr. (1764-1815), the son of the distinguished John Beale Bordley, Sr. (1727-1804), jurist and author, and his first wife Margaret Chew. From this letter it would appear that he had very recently been married, but as to the identity of his wife we are left in doubt, although we are told that her father lived on the "Island," which probably refers to Wye Island, Queen Anne Co., or possibly to Kent Island. (See also footnotes 60, 132 and 185.)

⁸⁶ "Polly Wright" was Mrs. Samuel Turbutt Wright of Queen Anne Co. She was Mary Sewell, daughter of Clement Sewell and his wife Rachel DeCourcy of Queen Anne Co. Her husband, Maj. Samuel Turbutt Wright (1748-1810), married twice; his second wife was his cousin Anne Wright.

⁸⁷ "Billy" is the writer's brother William Tilghman (1756-1827). (See footnote 42.)

⁸⁸ "Ferguson" is probably the Rev. Colin Ferguson (1750-1806), then rector of St. Paul's parish, near Chestertown, and from 1789 to 1805 president of Washington College. He is said to have been the first Episcopal clergyman ordained in the United States.

⁸⁹ "Arnold" is unquestionably Benedict Arnold. He had married, April

So says N. C. [Nancy Chew].⁹⁰ We heard by the last post that Brother Jimmy was recovering fast. farewell

M. T.

XII

Chester Town, February 18, 1787

If I do give you the slip my dear Polly you may be assur'd that necessity, and not choice will prevent my seeing you at Poplar Neck. If I am oblig'd to give up my visit, I shall be as much mortified as you can possibly be, but indeed I was never less at my own command than I have been since you left me. Tho' Sister Betsy [Lloyd] has never been confin'd, she has never been quite well, and of course was anxious to have one of us constantly with her. I went to farly [Fairlee] two days after Billy came from Philad^a intending to stay a few days—which my sister's entreaties, lengthen'd to three Weeks. From yesterday Week till the tuesday following, I was engag'd in one of the most melancholy offices of friendship attending the last illness of a friend. Poor Mr^s Lloyd ⁹¹ was suddenly taken with a violent Quincey, of which she died in four days. As she did not like strangers about her, I was a great deal with her night and day, and immediately after her death, I went to farly [Fairlee] to bring up Sister Nancy, who had been very sick for several days, and was distracted to get home, lest she shou'd have a severe illness. Happily however her fears were stronger than her disorder. On friday we came up, and she is now pretty well. This tedious account of my engagements will account for my not having written lately and that is the

8, 1779, a first cousin of the writer, Margaret, the daughter of Chief Justice Edward Shippen of Pennsylvania and his wife Margaret Francis.

⁹⁰ "N. C." is "Nancy" or Anna Maria Chew (1749-1812), the daughter of Chief Justice Benjamin Chew of Philadelphia. (See footnote 81.)

⁹¹ "Poor Mrs. Lloyd" is doubtless the wife of Col. Richard Lloyd of Kent Co., née Anne Crouch. She was the mother of Major James Lloyd of Farley, the brother-in-law of the writer.

sole reason of my troubling you with it and to convince you that I have not chang'd my opinion of punctuality's being the life of a correspondence, of which you so saucily remind me. A long winded period this and some what lamely express'd but a hint is enough to a Lady of your quick imagination.

I had a Letter from Henny ⁹² last Week, by which I had the pleasure of hearing that she was quite well, and had as yet kept clear of those disagreeable feelings, and swell'd Limbs which tormented her last Winter. My going to Talbot next month is not determin'd on. Her next Letter will settle the matter. If she seems very anxious to have me with her, I shall certainly go. If not, I shall defer my visit till May as she will have an excellent nurse and the family will be extremely large at that time.

I thank you for your intended favor of introducing me to so accomplish'd a Beau as Dr Hall ⁹³ but at this time I was much more gratified in receiving your Letter from the hands of [Michael] Earle, for besides my being very glad to see him, his coming down was a convincing proof that M^{rs} Earle was better. She has so often recover'd from severe illnesses that I am not so much alarm'd about her, as I shou'd be about any body else in her situation. I trust that good Weather with constant, and gentle exercise will once more restore her for indeed death wou'd be an irreparable loss to M^r Earle and poor Henny.

You can't think how pleas'd I was at hearing of the agreeable change in M^{rs} Thompson's ⁹⁴ circumstances. In my life, I was

⁹² Mrs. Lloyd Tilghman's second daughter, Henrietta Maria, was born about two months later—March 30, 1787. She afterwards married Alexander Hemsley of the Cloverfields family.

⁹³ "Dr. Hall" cannot be identified with certainty, but may well be Dr. Elisha John Hall (1764-1835), a member of the Hall family of Mt. Welcome, Cecil Co., who married Catherine Smyth.

⁹⁴ "Mrs. Thompson" is probably Mrs. Susanna Thompson, the widow of the Rev. William Thompson (1735-1785) rector of St. Stephen's, Cecil Co., who had died in 1785. She was Susanna (b. Jan. 17, 1738), the daughter of the Rev. George Ross, and had married Oct. 28, 1762. (See footnote 70.)

never so much interested about a stranger as I have been about her and I hope her *Pot luck* will always be as good as it is at present. It is pity that those who are inclin'd to make the best of their situation shou'd ever be in a distressing one.

It was unlucky for me that Billy [Tilghman] called at Poplar Neck as he return'd from Philad^a. The news of that place wou'd have afforded ample subjects for a long Letter, and such opportunities of exercising my pen occur so seldom that I regret exceedingly his having anticipated me. But perhaps tis better as it is, for I shou'd probably have run into a most cruel length in describing the sentimental parties, the brilliant Circles, and the social petit soupés that engag'd his Evenings, without even mentioning the morning visits, Dinners &c which completely filled up his Days. On one subject, I fancy he did not say much to you, for he has not to me. All my questions have been in vain to discover the state of his Heart, tho' he has given me a general history of the various dangers it has encounter'd. Miss Ann Hamilton's ⁹⁵ Madona softness, Sophia Francis's ⁹⁶ bewitching sprightliness, Nancy Allen's ⁹⁷ all powerful smile, and Peggy Chew's ⁹⁸ *Je ne scai quoi*. From which of these he has suffer'd most, he will determine on reflexion, for in Philadelphia he had not time to settle the point. One piece of intelligence respecting M^{rs} Byngham's elegance,⁹⁹ I may venture to give you as news,

⁹⁵ "Miss Ann Hamilton" (1769-1798) was a celebrated Philadelphia beauty. She was the second daughter of Andrew Hamilton, 3d, of Woodlands near Philadelphia. She married in 1792 James Lyle.

⁹⁶ "Sophia Francis," the daughter of the writer's uncle Tench Francis, Jr. of Philadelphia, and his wife Anne Willing. She afterwards married George Harrison.

⁹⁷ "Nancy Allen" is Anne Penn Allen (1767-1851), the daughter of James Allen of Philadelphia and his wife Elizabeth Lawrence. She married in 1800 James Greenleaf.

⁹⁸ "Peggy Chew" is Margaret Oswald Chew (1760-1824) who later married Gen. John Eager Howard. (See footnote 63.)

⁹⁹ "Mrs. Byngham" is Mrs. William Bingham, née Anne Willing, the daughter of Thomas Willing. Her husband was a man of great wealth and prominence. She was a celebrated Philadelphia beauty. She and her

because it was out of Billy's way to mention it. Aunt Lawrence¹⁰⁰ is my informant. After speaking in high terms of Mrs B's beauty, she says that a few nights before she had blaz'd upon a large party at Mr [Robert] Morris's in a dress which eclips'd any that has yet been seen. A Robe a la Turke of black Velvet, Rich White sattin Petticoat, body and sleeves, the whole trim'd with Ermine. A large Bouquet of natural flowers supported by a knot of Diamonds, Large Buckles, Necklace and Earrings of Diamonds, Her Head ornamented with Diamond Sprigs interspers'd with artificial flowers, above all, wav'd a towering plume of snow white feathers. Can you imagine a dress more strikingly beautiful. How happy is it for the World in general, my dear Polly, that splendor is not necessary to real happiness, if it was, what wou'd become of such little people as you and I?

The news of this Town is very trifling just now. The flirtations of the day are Mr John Chew¹⁰¹ in his glowing Velvet and Miss Van Dike,¹⁰² and Major Clealand (see also footnote 82) and Anny Sudler.¹⁰³ The last Hero, after a very close siege

husband had recently returned from abroad where they had received unusual attention.

¹⁰⁰ "Aunt Lawrence" is Mrs. John Lawrence, née Elizabeth Francis (1733-1800) of Philadelphia, a sister of the writer's mother.

¹⁰¹ "Mr. John Chew," later sometimes referred to as Jack Chew, is doubtless John (1740-1807), the son of Chief Justice Samuel Chew (1693-1744) of Delaware, and his second wife Mary (Paca) Galloway. He lived in Chestertown and apparently never married.

¹⁰² "Miss Van Dike" is Sarah Van Dyke, daughter of Mrs. Mary Van Dyke (d. 1798), née Graves, the widow of Dr. Thomas Van Dyke (d. 1787), a prominent physician of Kent Co. Sarah Van Dyke married a year or two after this Dr. Andrew Wiesenthal of Baltimore. She had a younger sister Mary Elizabeth Henrietta Van Dyke. (See also footnote 46.) "Major Clealand" has not been identified.

¹⁰³ "Anny Sudler" is Anna, the daughter of Emory Sudler (b. 1725) of Kent Co. and his wife Martha Smyth (d. 1799). Martha Smyth was the daughter of Thomas Smyth of Trumpington, Kent Co. and his second wife Mary Frisby. Anna Sudler was probably a first cousin of "Miss Garnett" so often referred to in these letters, who is to be identified as Anna, the daughter of Mary (Smyth) Garnett, another daughter of Thomas

of a fortnight, has been defeated, (Those fighting yankies have fill'd my Head with military terms). The elder Damon's fate is not yet pronounc'd. If you ask my opinion I can only tell you that the report is strong that he visits very often at the House and (what is still more suspicious) he blushes and looks silly when her name is mention'd and further this deponent sayeth not.

M^{rs} Forman ¹⁰⁴ came here a few days ago, to know whether Aunt Pearce intended to take her Daughter, she wishes to know immediately because she has the offer of another good place for her, M^{rs} Thomas's, she says Henny is very desirous of living with you. I promis'd to inform you of what she said, and your Mama will act accordingly, I am happy to hear she is coming down soon and if I might advise, she will take advantage of this fine Weather. Dick Tilghman ¹⁰⁵ sold all his patty pans, long ago but he says Kennard at Duck Creek has plenty of the same sort, at the same price. Tell Nancy [Pearce?] that within the last fortnight Letters have come to hand from Anny Smith,¹⁰⁶ and Dick Tilghman. They were both quite well. Dick will be in, in March and for the present, he has sent in a young Bear, which he has recommended to the particular notice and friendship of his friend Tom Buchanan. Bruin is now at Rock Hall but he is shortly to be sent for.

I shall say nothing of the business that brought Mr [Michael] Earle down as he will tell you all about it. I think affairs are now in a better train than they been for long time, and poor

Smyth of Trumpington. (See footnote 140.) It has not been learned whom Anna Sudler married.

¹⁰⁴ "Mrs. Forman" and her daughter "Henny" are doubtless members of the Queen Anne and Cecil Co. family of this name, but cannot be definitely placed.

¹⁰⁵ "Dick Tilghman" is difficult to distinguish among several of this name, but is probably Richard Tilghman (1740-1809) of Grosses, Talbot Co., the son of William Tilghman of Grosses, and a first cousin of the writer. He had married in 1784 Mary Gibson.

¹⁰⁶ "Anny Smith" is the wife of Rev. Robert Smith. (See footnote 77.)

Cousin Polly [Ringgold] is quite happy in keeping Tom¹⁰⁷ with her. Mrs G[alloway]¹⁰⁸ poor thing is but peaking tho' as she is not thought to be in danger she is not much pitied. I suppose you understand me, but if you don't it is no great matter, as it is one of those secrets that time will certainly bring to light. The same report prevails as to Madame Pearce.¹⁰⁹ If it is true, all your mortal fears are over and hers (I suppose) are beginning. Give my love to her, and tell her I beg she will come thro' Chester Town that I may see her improvements. It is a folly for her to be asham'd of her *slimness*, nobody is asham'd now.

Monday Morning

The post has this moment brought me a Letter from Henny, which has determin'd me not to go to Talbot before May. She still keeps quite well. I may now reasonably expect to see my friends in Cecil before long. When Aunt P[earce] comes down I will settle the time, manner &c. Do you know the amiable Miss Debby Perry¹¹⁰? She is soon to be married to a Mr Dickinson. Henny says, Betsy and Henny Lloyd¹¹¹ are in high preparation for the occasion. They are to exhibit as brides Maids. I beg you will not let your Wilmington Beaux visit you before I go up. The agreeable Bennett,¹¹² I have a great desire to see because he is so fond of your family. You may depend on seeing all my Books with me.

¹⁰⁷ "Tom" is Thomas Ringgold (d. 1818), the son of Mrs. Mary (Galloway) Ringgold, or "Aunt Polly" as she is called, the widow of Thomas Ringgold (1744-1776).

¹⁰⁸ "Mrs. G." is Mrs. John Galloway, née Sarah Chew. (See footnotes 83 and 120.)

¹⁰⁹ "Madam Pearce" is Mrs. Henry Ward Pearce, Jr., née Anna Maria Tilghman, recently married, and so constantly referred to in these letters.

¹¹⁰ "Miss Debby Perry" and "Mr. Dickinson." These are both well known Eastern Shore names.

¹¹¹ "Betsy and Henny Lloyd" are the daughters of James Lloyd (1716-1768) of Parsons Landing, Talbot Co., referred to in footnote 74.

¹¹² "The agreeable Bennet" is doubtless Bennett Chew, son of Samuel Chew (d. 1737) of Maryland and his wife Henrietta Maria Lloyd. Bennett Chew married Ann Maria, daughter of the writer's uncle Edward Tilghman.

Cecil is growing monstrously gay, nothing but Batchelors parties to be heard of. What a pity that Major [Thomas Marsh] Forman had so few witnesses of his superior manner of doing the honours of his House. I wish you had gone, farewell

M. T.

(To be continued.)

THE WORCESTER COUNTY MILITIA OF 1794.

A PLAN OF RECOMMENDATION OF OFFICERS—LIST OF OFFICERS.

EDITED BY HARRY FRANKLIN COVINGTON.

I

In submitting a copy of the report of the Committee of Recommendations for officering the Militia of Worcester County in 1794, I may say that I have filed the document with the Society for permanent keeping. It consists of a half-dozen sheets of foolscap—12 pages—neatly written and sewed together and bears the name of William Whittington, as Clerk of the Committee. Judge William Whittington was grandfather of the late United States Senator John Walter Smith of Snow Hill. The document apparently came from the latter's private papers.

The document is noteworthy, I think, for its method and plan of adjusting the new militia system after the Revolution, to dear and long cherished principles of government. Finding, a circumstance for which the law did not specifically provide, the sons of Worcester proceeded to meet it in their own way and in the spirit of the law and the democracy under which they lived. Their attitude assumes that whether the issue at stake be great or small every man has the right to be heard, is entitled to his day in court. Thus it sounds a note typical

of Maryland history, which is the history of a strong and independent people in whom the love of liberty was no less a business than a passion. We see the same characteristics dominant today among their descendants in such things as their opposition to Federal centralization and bureauracy. Indeed, this document may carry us back in spirit to the days of the Barons of King John.

Dissatisfaction had arisen in the county, it seems, over the "mode of procedure" followed by a small Committee of Recommendation composed of 24 gentlemen in recommending officers for the new militia. This led to the calling of a general public meeting at Snow Hill and the adoption of new methods and further recommendations. According to the letter to the Governor and Council, their proceedings were designed not only to correct abuses and allay popular resentment, but as being best calculated for the "selection of such men as unite a capacity to discharge the duties of their respective offices and the attachment of the people over whom they are to command." No quartering of soldiers on the public. They desired instead an efficient militia for the protection of a free and contented people.

The plan itself is unique, in that it employs a representative method of recommending militia officers rather than the direct method. Throughout the colonies generally, the recent custom had been the direct method whereby each member of a company had an opportunity of voting his choice of officers directly from among the members of his company. In the early days of the Maryland colony, however, the Governor commissioned "Colonels, Majors, and Captains," and empowered them to serve as recruiting officers (Militia Laws in Archives of Maryland, Vol. 13 & 16). No special mode was prescribed for choosing minor officers, who were presumably picked by the Captain or by the members of the Company with his consent. In 1775, however, it was ordered "that, if a sufficient number of men enroll, to make up a company or artillery, they may choose their own officers." (Archives of Maryland, Vol. XI, p. 28).

The new representative plan called for all male white persons of each hundred or district, after due public notice given, to meet on the first Saturday of May at some convenient place in each hundred and choose two Committeemen from each company. These Committeemen were to serve as representatives and convene at Snow Hill on the Tuesday following, and recommend to the Governor and Council "fit and proper persons" to fill the different offices under the late Militia Law. (See Chapter 53, Acts of Nov. Session, 1793).

It may be noted that this is not the procedure to which Congressman John Witherspoon objected in 1777.* He protested successfully against the election of Major-Generals by a vote of the general officers, and believed that the power should be appointive. The Worcester plan was merely a plan of recommendation to the Governor by vote of representatives from the companies chosen by the people. The Maryland statute makes no mention of any citizens Committee of Recommendation, but provides that the Governor shall appoint the officers of militia. Further, it makes no provision for giving salaries to officers but names certain articles of equipment which each officer shall furnish for himself. It does provide, however, for the payment of a *per diem* to those engaged in making up lists of men eligible in the counties. The Governor could appoint whom he chose, except for certain exemptions, but naturally he would be expected to give attention to the advice of such a representative body as endorsed the Worcester County recommendations.

The Whittington document, as given here in full, makes plain that the plan was carried out in detail, and finally states that the officers recommended were "Commissioned the 24th of June 1794." It will appear, moreover, that a majority of the first Committee endorsed the recommendations of the later Committee in preference to the earlier, and forwarded a letter to this effect to the Governor and Council.

* President John Witherspoon by Varnum Lansing Collins, Vol. II, p. 64.

Such was the Worcester County experiment in solving the perpetual problem of reconciling democracy and army life. It will be interesting to follow it through, as later volumes of the *Archives* appear and render the records available. Whatever its success, however, it would seem that the liberties of the people in times of peace should be paramount to the necessities of the people in times of war. Undoubtedly, too, the men who were engaged in and led this undertaking were men of high purpose and of no small ability.

In conclusion, I believe that the representative plan adopted in 1794 by Worcester County for recommending Militia Officers had a two fold purpose: It was designed (1) to make sure that military control of the county (which had so long existed, probably since 1775), should not continue in time of peace: and (2), to assert the rights guaranteed to the people by the first Ten Amendments to the Constitution known as the Bill of Rights declared adopted in 1791. Special reference seems to be made to Amendment II confirming the right of the people to bear arms and to Amendment III preventing the quartering of soldiers in time of peace.

A letter of inquiry to the Army War College as to the modes of recommendation used by the Colonists has brought the information from C. A. Bach, Lieutenant-Colonel, Cavalry, Chief Historical Section, that "no specific use of this—the Worcester Plan—has been found," and also that "the procedure followed in making recommendations to the Governor is not known."

The document is interesting also for its mention of the Hundreds and of numerous names of persons. It assigns the Company officers to each of nine Hundreds, showing the section of the county each officer resided in at the time. The larger or more populous Hundreds would seem to be—Mattaponi, Queponco, Buckingham, and Wicomico. At least, they each furnished officers for three companies while the others supplied officers for no more than two. A number of the men listed had seen service with the Continental Army during the Revolution. I

am marking with a star * such names as are mentioned in Vol. XVIII of the Archives of Maryland, which gives the "Records of Maryland Troops in the Continental Service during the War of the American Revolution, 1775-83." It will thus appear (1) that of the 46 men the people elected to serve on the Committee of Recommendations, about one third had fought in the Revolution; that (2) of the eight men the Committee recommended for high commissions, the three men chosen for the highest had had revolutionary experience as officers—Colonel John Gunby, Lieutenant-Colonel Levin Winder, and Captain Levin Handy; and (3) that in many of the companies formed, they have also recommended as an officer the name of a soldier of Revolutionary experience. In some cases, however, we find the family but not the first name. For instance, Moses Chaille, 1st lieutenant of the third Maryland Independent Company, August 20, 1776 does not appear in the document, but we find instead the name of Peter Chaille who served as Chairman of the Snow Hill meeting, and William Chaille who was elected as a Committeeman from Wicomico Hundred. Again, Solomon Long, 2nd lieutenant of the third Maryland Independent Company above, is here represented by Levin Long who was chosen as Ensign of the company from Snow Hill Hundred. The Purnell family too is well represented here and in the Revolutionary records, but the first names are not often duplicated. Such names, of course, are not here starred. The document follows:

The figures placed after the few names in italics refer to Notes.

II

THE DOCUMENT.

Worcester County Snow Hill May 7th 1794

Gentlemen

Worcester County forming so inconsiderable a portion of the State of Maryland, it is no inconsiderable cause of regret that our part of the Country should so often trespass upon your

deliberations and so often excite your attention to the same Object. But as you are a Body selected by the immediate Representatives of the people, We flatter ourselves that nothing conducive to the security & prosperity of your Country will be unattended to by you. The subject upon which We address you is the important one of Officering the Militia, upon the respectable establishment of which [it is a maxim with Americans] especially depends the Security of the Civil and political Rights of freemen. Some time since you were presented with a Letter recommendatory of the Officers of this place drawn up and subscribed by twenty four Gentlemen who we believe Actuated by patriotic principles & considering the Necessity of an immediate attention to the filling up of the different Offices prescribed by the late Militia Law, without previous notice to the people formed themselves into a Committee for the purpose before mentioned and immediately transmitted their recommendations to you. When the people discovered the mode in which this Business had been conducted and that on account of the immediate transmission of their Recommendations to your Body, they had not an equal opportunity of Recommending their Officers; Almost a universal dissatisfaction pervaded the County and not only men of inferior rank and of irascible and impetuous Tempers but those of the Most intelligent kind & tranquil Dispositions considered the mode of procedure as unfair and not only a deprivation of their Rights of a participation in the Recommendation, but badly calculated to promote the object of the Committee—to wit—the selection of proper Officers for the Militia.—Upon seeing the minds of the people thus inflamed & having upon deliberation conceived what they considered a more eligible mode of procedure, a number of the Committee on the next day of public meeting at Snow Hill subsequent to a publication of their proceedings requested the people who were collected from various parts of the County would attend in the Court House w[h]ere the Resolves herein contained were proposed to them and acceded to.—The substance of which was that each hun-

dred should hold an election and delegate from each Company two Representatives to meet in one general Committee at Snow Hill—To this System all seemed willing to confide their pretensions to offices & by this all conceived the Inconveniency & impropriety of treating would be prevented; and that by this plan such men would be selected as are best calculated to fill the various Offices designated by the Act for the Organization and dicipline of the militia.—In persuance to these Resolves & by a deputation from the people we convened at Snow Hill on the 6th of May for the purpose before mentioned & do hereby recommend the persons as officers for the different Ranks to which their names are respectively affixed in the transcript of the proceedings hereto annexed.—It may be proper here to mention that a number of the former committee are members of this Body & as by a letter accompanying this you will perceive they consider the present as the Most eligible plan that could be adopted as being best calculated for the selection of such men as unite a Capacity to discharge the Duties of their respective offices and the attachment of the people over whom they are to command—It may be proper also to mention that our proceedings were public & that every man had an equal right to recommend his friends & as it is reasonable to suppose from the manner of our appointment—that the strictest impartiality was exhibited to the public and that the governing principle was the public good.

We are Gentlemen

Your Most Obt Serv^{ts}

Levin Handy
 Samuel Handy
 Thomas Dixon
 William Corbin

Benjⁿ Purnell
*John Gunby*¹
 W^m Chaille
 W^m Toadvine

¹ General John Gunby (1745-1807) enlisted early and was promoted quickly. On January 2, 1776, he was elected by the Convention, Captain of the 2nd Independent Maryland Company; was commissioned Colonel of the 2nd Regiment, April 17, 1777; was Colonel of the 1st Regiment,

William Beavans
 Ja^s Bacon
 W^m Parker
 Barkly Townsend
 Johnson Dennis
 Ja^s Houston
 Benjⁿ Dennis

*Henry Franklin*²
 Zadok Purnell
 John Postly
 Esau Williams
 Elisha Purnell
*Will^m Morris*³
 W^m Underhill

June 1, 1783; and was again Colonel of the 2nd Regiment on June 5, 1789. (Archives of Maryland, Vol. 18.) An account and estimate of his distinguished career may be found in a volume published in 1902 by A. A. Gunby of the Louisiana Bar entitled "Colonel John Gunby of the Maryland Line." He was buried on his farm near Snow Hill, which was purchased in 1817 from his son George, by Captain James Dennis, son of Benjamin, and has since belonged to the latter's descendants, the farm now being owned by Mrs. George W. Covington.

² Henry Franklin (1744-1816) was son of William Franklin (died 1777) and Sarah, only daughter of Henry Alexander; grandson of Ebenczer Franklin (died 1728) and Bridget, granddaughter of Major-General Edward Whaley—the regicide; and great-grandson of "Commissioner" John Franklin (died 1727). He married in 1766 Eleanor Massey. Among his descendants are Judge John R. Franklin (1820-1878) a graduate of Jefferson College in 1836; 1843 member of the House of Delegates, 1849 Speaker of the House; 1853 Representative 33rd Congress, and 1865 Judge of the Circuit Court; State Senator Littleton P. Franklin (1831-1888); Dr. George Anson Franklin; George W. Covington, a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1867, a Representative in the 47th and 48th Congress; Lady Martha Ellen Kortright, Colonel Harry Purnell of the U. S. Army.

³ Colonel William Morris was both a civil and militia officer during the Revolution.

- (1) June 4, 1777—Appointed Justice of the Orphans Court, (p. 274).
- (2) July 11, 1777—Appointed Register of Wills (p. 317).
- (3) Aug. 30, 1777—Commissioned Major of the Snow Hill Battalion in Worcester County (p. 350).
- (4) Dec. 22, 1777—Commissioned by the General Assembly Register of Wills for Worcester County (p. 444).
- (5) March 23, 1778—Commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel of the Synnepuxent Battalion of Militia in Worcester County (p. 547).

The references are to Vol. 16 of the Archives of Maryland. A letter of inquiry to the Clerk of the Court at Snow Hill brings the following: "William Morris seems to have probated his first will in December 1777, and his last on October 19, 1780," and also, that his brother James Round

Isaac Marshall	John Johnson
<i>John Bishop</i> ⁴	William Holland
Tho ^s Purnell sen ^r	Robt M. Richardson
Jonathan Parsons	Abisha Davis
Sam ^l Davis	James Laws
Jonathan Cathell	Joseph Gray
David Wilson	George Bell
W ^m Purnell	
Boaz Walston	<i>John Dennis, of Littⁿ</i> ⁵
John Holland	John Buchanan
Sam ^l Harper	Ja ^s Selby
Nehemiah Holland	John Marshall

Morris "was Clerk of the Court from 1777 to 1795." It is a matter of tradition that during the darkest hours of the Revolution, the county records were transferred for safety to the Morris home in Queponco.

⁴ Captain John Bishop (1754-1820) a brother of Charles Bishop, (who died in 1805) was son of William Bishop (who died in 1807) and grandson of William Bishop (who died in 1757) and Ann Martin, daughter of Thomas Sr.—lineal descendants of Henry Bishop of "Durham House" and "Snow Hill." Captain John Bishop left daughter Zipporah (born 1799) who in 1821 married John Potts Duffield, youngest son of Benjamin and Rebecca (Potts) Duffield. Among their descendants was Charles P. Duffield, and Anna Duffield who married Judge John Rankin Franklin.

⁵ John Dennis (of Littleton). John Dennis (1771-1806) son of Littleton Dennis (1728-1774) and Susanna Upshur (daughter of Abel Upshur), who built Beverly house, was 10 years in Congress first in the 5th Congress, was one of the five Federalists who changed from Burr to Jefferson, thus breaking the deadlock. Identified with "Beckford" near Princess Anne. Married Elinor Wilson Jockson. Great grandfather of Rosalie Cook. Littleton Dennis (1765-1833) brother of John above, married Elizabeth Upshur, died at "Essex" Farm—Lawyer and Judge of Appeals 1801-1806. Littleton and Elizabeth left among other children (I) John Upshur Dennis and (II) Littleton Upshur Dennis.

(I) John Upshur Dennis (1793-1851) died at Beverly. Married (1) Elizabeth Dashiell; (2) Maria Robertson; (3) Louisa J. Holland. John Upshur and Maria left (a) James U. Dennis, lawyer of Princess Anne, father of James Teackle Dennis; (b) Dr. George Dennis of Kingston, U. S. Senator, father of Judge Upshur Dennis and James U. Dennis. John Upshur and Louisa Jane left, Samuel K. Dennis, father of Arthur, Alfred Pearce (Vice Chairman of Federal Tariff Commission) Samuel K. (lawyer and former U. S. District Attorney) Philip and (II) Littleton Upshur Dennis (1804-1833) lived and died at Essex, married Sarah Anne

Snow Hill May 7th 1794. I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true transcript of the original address to the Governor & Council from a Committee of Recommendation, & which was deposited in my custody as Clerk.

W^m Whittington.

Resolutions which were adopted by a Meeting of the people at Snow Hill on the 18th of April 1794 for the purpose of carrying into execution a plan for recommending to the Governor and Council fit and proper Characters to fill the different Offices under the late Militia Law.—

Whereas the appointment of proper Characters to fill the different Offices under the late Militia Law is the most effectual means of obtaining an efficient and well regulated Militia which is the only sure defense of the Rights and privileges of the people of every Country and Whereas also it is proper and expedient that the Governor & Council should be informed what persons are the most proper to be selected for this purpose—Therefore resolved—

1st That the people of this meeting recommend and they do hereby request, as being the most eligible means of procuring fit and proper persons to be appointed Officers under the late Militia law—that all male white persons of each hundred in the County above Eighteen years of age do meet on the first Saturday in May next at some convenient place in each hundred hereafter to be appointed; and then and there elect and chuse two Committee men from each Company for the purpose of convening at Snowhill & recommending to the

Waters Robertson (died 1832) Littleton and Sarah left son George R. Dennis raised at Beverly by his uncle and guardian John U. Dennis—moved to Frederick, married successively two McPherson sisters, descendants of Thomas Johnson, first Governor of Maryland. George R. Dennis is the father of John M. Dennis, present State Treasurer, and one daughter, Elizabeth, who married (1) her first cousin, Littleton Dennis son of John U. Dennis, (2) Murray Rush of Philadelphia, whose daughter Elizabeth Murray Rush married John Biddle Porter of Philadelphia.

Governor & Council fit and proper persons to fill the different Offices under the late Militia Law.

2^d Resolved—That the Committee men chosen and elected as afs^d are requested to meet at Snow Hill on the Tuesday after the First saturday in May next and then and there recommend to the Governor & Council such Characters as they conceive are best qualified to become officers of the Militia.—

3^d Resolved—That the Committee afs^d when convened are solicited to request the members of a Committee who set a few days ago in Snow Hill to furnish them with a transcript of their proceedings and the names of the different persons recommended as officers and if any of them should be approved of by this Committee it shall be so notified to the Governor & Council.

4th Resolved that Col. Peter Chaille Mr. John Dennis Mr William Handy and Mr Henry Parker be and they are hereby appointed a Committee of Information for the purpose of notifying to the people of each Hundred that an Election will be held on the day afs^d at such places as they shall appoint in order to select men to form a Committee for the purposes afs^d.

5th That this last mentioned Committee are requested to appoint places for the holding the said Elections and to notify the people thereof and also to appoint a judge and Clerk of the s^d Elections whose duty it shall be to make true returns of the polls kept at the said Elections to the Committee of recommendation when convened at Snow Hill and who shall be judges of their own Elections.—

6th Resolved That this meeting recommend it as expedient that the former Committee be requested to inform the Governor & Council to suspend any appointments agreeably to their Recommendation untill further information on the subject was communicated.

7th Resolved—That the Committee of Recommendation send forward a transcript of their proceedings as soon as possi-

ble to the Governor & Council and if necessary are requested to hire a person for the purpose of carrying the same to Annapolis.—

Peter Chaille ⁶ Chairman,
W^m Whittington Clerk

I do hereby certify to the Honourable the Governor and Council of the State of Maryland that the following four Sheets of paper contain a true and Accurate transcript of certain Resolutions proposed to and Adopted by the people of Worcester County in order to carry into execution a plan for the purpose of recommending to the Executive fit and proper Characters to fill the different offices presented by the late Militia Law; Also a true transcript of the Proceedings of a Committee of Recommendation which convened at Snow Hill in consequence of the adoption of the afs^d resolutions; together with the Copy of an address to the Executive from the said Committee as well as the Copy of a Letter Signed by a majority of members of a former Committee convened on a similar occasion.

William Whittington Clerk
of the Committee of Recommendⁿ

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF RECOMMENDATION.

On the Tuesday after the first Saturday in May being the day appointed by the resolutions adopted by the people on the 18th of April for the meeting of the committee of Recommendation the following persons convened at Snow Hill and from the inspection of the Returns of Elections for the respective Hun-

⁶ Colonel Peter Chaillé was one of four brothers who left France because of religious persecution. They came first to Boston, then two, Moses and Peter, settled near Snow Hill. Peter or Pierre had ten daughters and one son Bonaventure who married Louise de Bessay. They had a son Colonel Peter Chaille who married Comfort Houston. Their daughter Comfort, Marguerite Chaille married Levin Long. The late Colonel Charles

dreds appeared to be duly elected to serve as members in the said Committee of Recommendation.

For.

Snow Hill Hundred	Queponco Hund ^d	Mattoponi Hund ^d
Levin Handy *	Elisha Purnell	John Holland
Sam ^l Handy	David Wilson *	Nehemiah Holland
Pocomoke Hundred	W ^m Purnell (C. N.)	Samuel Harper *
Thom ^s Dixon		John Johnson *
William Corbin *	William Morris *	William Holland
William Beavans	William Underhill	Sen.
Ja ^s Bacon	Isaac Marshall *	Rob ^t Master Rich- ardson *
Acquango Hund ^d	Boquetonorton H.	
William Parker *	John Bishop	Worcester Hund ^d
Barkly Townsend	Tho ^s Purnell	Abisha Davis
Johnson Dennis	Benj ⁿ Purnell	Ja ^s Laws
Benj ⁿ Dennis ⁷	John Gunby *	Joseph Gray *
James Houston	Wecomico Hund ^d	George Bell
Buckingham Hund ^d	William Chaille	Pitts Creek Hund ^d
Henry Franklin	William Toadvine	John Dennis *
Zadok Purnell *	Jonathan Parsons	John Buchanan *
John Postly	Sam ^l Davis *	Ja ^s Selby *
Esaua Williams	Jonathan Cathell	John Marshall *
	Boaz Walston	

Chaille-Long was grandson of Levin Long and great grandson of Colonel Peter Chaille Long. Colonel Peter was a member of the Conventions of Maryland, one of the Signers of the Association of Freeman of Maryland and Colonel of the 1st Battalion Eastern Shore Maryland Regiment of Infantry. Mrs. Mary Dennis Grannan of Brookline, Mass. is also a descendant.

⁷ Captain Benjamin Dennis—married Elizabeth Atkinson—was commissioned Captain of "Wicomico Battalion of Worcester County June 21, 1776. Lawyer and Member of House of Delegates 1788-92; died 1808. Left a son Captain James Dennis (1770-1850) who married Sally Maddox. They left a daughter Louisa (1806-1860) who married George Bishop, son of Charles—a descendant of Henry Bishop of "Durham House" and

The Committee proceeded to appoint a Chairman and Col. William Morris was duly elected.—

The committee then appointed William Whittington Esq., Clerk.

The committee adjourns till 2 o'clock p. m.—

The Committee met agreeably to adjournment and all members present.—On Motion—Several persons were put in nomination to be balloted for in order to fill the different offices prescribed by the Militia Law, and upon examining the Ballots the following persons appeared duly elected and are recommended as fit and proper Characters to fill the different offices to which their names are respectively annexed.—

John Gunby *	Major General
Levin Winder * ^s	Brigadier General
Levin Handy *	Leutenant Col. of the 1 st Regim ^t in this County
Isaac Houston	Leutenant Col of the 2 ^d Regem ^t do.
John Holland	Major of the Lower Battalion
Littleton Robins †	Major of the Middle Battalion
James Handy	Major of the Acquango Batt ⁿ
Edward Henry	Major of the Upper Battalion
William Chaille	Major of the Pocomoke Battal ⁿ

"Snow Hill" farms;—George Bishop left one daughter Sallie Bishop who married George W. Covington.

^s General Levin Winder (1756-1819) son of Judge William Winder (1714-1792) and Esther Gillis. Among children of William were: (1) Priscilla married David Wilson; (2) Captain John married (1) Betty Jones, (2) Susanna Harmonson; (3) William married Charlotte Henry; (4) Esther married (1) Isaac Handy, (2) Judge William Polk.

Before 1812, he was Speaker of the House of Delegates, and from 1812 to 1815, he was Governor of the state. (Scharf—History of Maryland, Vol. III, p. 36). In 1816, he was a member of the Senate.

† [This erasure is probably due to an error in naming five Majors for four Battalions, instead of four as provided by statute—*Editor*.]

Upper Compy	}	9th Reg ^t
Joseph Gunby Cap ^t		
Levi Henderson Leiut.		
W ^m Schoolfield Ensign		
Lower Compy	}	For Pitts Creek Hundred
Benjamin Aydelott Cap ^t .		
Anderson Patterson Leiut.		
James Dickerson Ensign		
1 st	}	9th Reg ^t
Samuel Harper Cap ^t *		
Hezekiah Johnson Leiut ^t		
Joshua Duer Ensign		
2 ^d	}	For Mattoponi Hundred
Rob ^t M. Richardson * Cap ^t		
George Richardson * Leiut ^t		
James Selby Ensign		
3 ^d	}	9th Reg ^t
Nehemiah Holland Cap ^t		
Samuel Holland Leiut.		
William Holland * Ensign		
1 st	}	9th Reg ^t
George Purnell Cap ^t		
Belitha Brittingham Leiut ^t		
Jacob Teague Ensign		
2 ^d	}	For Boquetonorton Hund ^d
John Selby Purnell Cap ^t		
Thomas Purnell of Tho. Leiut.		
William Townsend * Ensign		
1 st Compy	}	For Snow Hill Hundred
Levin Pollitt Cap ^t		
John Rock * Leiut ^t		
Levin Long Ensign		

1 st	
W ^m Purnell Cap ^t	9 th Reg ^t
Rob ^t Mitchell * Leiut.	
Thomas Purnell Ensign	
2 ^d	
Isaac Marshall * Cap ^t	For Queponco Hundred
Hampton Rounds Leiut.	
John Purnell Ensign	
3 ^d	
<i>Ephraim Wilson</i> Cap ^t ⁹	9 th Reg ^t
Esme Purnell Leiut.	
Thomas Rackliff Ensign	
Southern & Western Compy	9 th Reg ^t
Levin Mitchell * Cap ^t	
John Purnell Marshall Leiut.	
Levi Mills Ensign	
Middle Company	For Buckingham Hund ^d
John Rackliff Cap ^t	
Joshua Prideaux Leiut.	
John Waters *	
3 ^d	
Hillary Pitts. Cap ^t	do
Belitha Powell Leiut.	
Josiah Hill Ensign	
	9 th Reg ^t

⁹ Major Ephraim King Wilson (1771-1834) son of David (1737-1810) and Priscila Winder, sister of Governor Levin Winder. Graduated from Princeton 1789, Representative 20th and 21st Congress (1827-31). Married (1) Sallie Handy, daughter of Colonel Samuel Handy a member of the Maryland Convention; (2) married Ann Gunby daughter of General John Gunby. Among their descendants is Judge Ephraim King Wilson (1821-1891)—who graduated from Jefferson College in 1841 and was successively Judge, Representative in Congress, and United States Senator. Married (1) Mary Ann Dickerson. Their children were William Sidney Wilson and Mrs. Marion T. Harges (Ella Wilson); (2) married Julia A. Knox. Among their children are Ephraim K. Wilson, Mrs. Edward T. White (Mary Wilson) and Mrs. Franklin Upshur (Ethelyn Winder Wilson).

1 st	}	do
James Laws of Ja ^s Capt.		
Thomas Riley Leiut.		
W ^m Townsend * Ensign	}	Worcester Hundred
2 ^d		
George Bell Cap ^t		
Abisha Davis Leiut.		
Lemuel Showell ¹⁰ Ensign	}	do
1 st		
Thomas Handy Capt.		
Brittingham Beavans Leiut.		
William Bacon Ensign	}	37 Pocomoke Hundred
2 ^d		
Ja ^s Broadwater Capt.		
Samuel Taylor * Leiut.		
Smith Johnson Ensign	}	37
1 st		
Levin Parsons Cap ^t		
Reuben Davis Leiut.		
Joshua Johnson	}	Wecomico Hundred
2 ^d		
John Shockly Sr. of John Cap ^t		
William Richardson Leiut.		
John Shockly * of Elijah Ens ⁿ	}	37 th Reg ^t
3 ^d		
Samuel Davis Cap ^t *		
William Toadvine Lt		
David Cathell Ensign		

¹⁰ Lemuel Showell (1762-1818) married Hannah Dale (1761-1837); left son Captain Lemuel (1794-1859) who married in 1821 Mary Robins Bridell (1796-1852) daughter of Edward Bridell and Mary Fassett; left son William (1827-1884) who married Nancy Myers Le Fevre. Captain Lemuel was a large planter, merchant, and owner of ships engaged in the coastwise trade. Mrs. Philipps Lee Goldsborough is a descendant.

1 st	}	Acquango Hund ^d
George Hayward Cap ^t		
John Townsend Leiut.		
James Dennis Ensign		
2 ^d		
James Houston Cap ^t		
William Jones * Leiut.		
Elisha Jones Ensign		
3 ^d		
Robert Mitchell of Jn ^o Pope Cap ^t		
Elijah Fooks Leiut.		
John Duncan * Ensign		

Commissioned the 24th June 1794

Snow Hill May 7th 1794

Gentlemen

A few weeks past by letter We the subscribing part of a Committee convened at Snow Hill for the purpose of recommending to the Governor & Council fit and proper Characters to fill the different offices prescribed by the late Militia Law, requested your Honours to suspend any appointments agreeably to our Recommendation till further information on the subject was communicated. We do, therefore, now think it proper to inform you that the former plan of recommendation sent forward to you, was adopted from an impression of the necessity of some such plan.—But since we find that a different and eligible plan had been proposed to the people and has been carried into execution which we approve of in preference of the other, as we conceive in all probability it will be more satisfactory to the people at large and at the same time as fit and as proper Characters are recommended by the latter

as the circumstances attending the transaction of the Business would admit.—

We are Gentlemen y^{rs} &c.

John Gunby	Benj ⁿ Dennis	<i>James B. Robins</i> ¹¹
Will ^m Purnell	John S. Purnell	Levin Handy the only ex-
Will ^m Chaille	W ^m Whittington	ception he has is the
Isaac Houston	John Holland	major of the Lower
John Postly	Samuel Handy	Battalion
		James Bacon

May 7. 94. I do hereby certify that the above is a true Copy of a letter deposited in my custody by the above mentioned Gentlemen who signed the same in order to be transmitted to the Governor & Council.

W^m Whittington, Clerk.

¹¹ Judge James B. Robins (1771-1826) of "Fairfield" farm, son of Major John Purnell Robins (1742-1781) and Anna Spence. He married (1) Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac Horsey. Among their living descendants are Dr. William L. Robins, Dean Thomas H. Spence and Judge John Spence of Texas.

It is said that the Virginia County was named Northampton for the home shire in England of the pioneer Colonel Obedience Robins (1600-1662) of "Cheriton," Va., who married Grace O'Neill. First Commander of the Eastern Shore of Virginia, and for many years a member of its assembly. Their son Major John Robins (born 1635) married in 1662 Esther, daughter of Colonel Nathaniel Littleton. His grandson, Thomas, married in 1699, Elizabeth, daughter of Peter Bowdoin, the Huguenot immigrant. His great-grandson Thomas the second, married (1) Leah, daughter of Elias Whaley and granddaughter of General Edward Whaley of England, the regicide. Thomas the third was a son of Thomas the second and Leah. Their daughter married John Fassett, whose descendants may be found among the families of Cable Tingle, William Showell and George W. Covington. Thomas the second married (2) Andasia, daughter of John Purnell of Synpuxent. They left five children among whom were James Bowdoin above, and Littleton, Major Thomas M. Robins of West Point and James B. of Snow Hill are grandsons of Littleton, brother of Judge James B.

I may add that persons seeking further information should consult Volume 16 as well as Volume 18 of the Archives of Maryland. The exposure of Worcester County to attack or to communication both by

Colonel William Whittington succeeded John Done, of Somerset, as Chief Justice of the Fourth District of Maryland in 1799, Judge Done, appointed under the Judiciary Act of 1790, having been promoted to the General Court. The Fourth District (there being five in the State), included Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset and Worcester Counties—all the Eastern Shore south of the Choptank. Judge Whittington served a little less than two years, when his tenure was ended by the Act of 1801, which likewise divided the Eastern Shore into two districts, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot being the Second.

William Polk, of Somerset, was appointed in Judge Whittington's stead, for party reasons. By Luther Martin, Whittington sued Polk at the only assize of novel disseisin known to the Maryland law reports for "having disseised him of his freehold, with its appurtenances," in the office of Chief Justice of the County Courts of the Fourth District, and the General Court, upon a jury's special verdict, found that when Whittington qualified "a right vested in him to hold office until his death or conviction in a court of law of misbehavior"; and that the repealing Act of 1801 in depriving him of his office was "an infraction of his right and does not accord with sound legislation." However, the General Court held that the Act was not repugnant to the State Constitution, and was within the power of the Legislature; and nonsuited Whittington because the writ of assize of novel disseisin (first used in the reign of Henry II), the use of which in Elizabethan England in a certain action for the recovery of land had been set up as a precedent by Martin and Robert Goodloe Harper, had never been extended to Maryland, and could not be availed of

the Pocomoke River and from Synepuxent Bay through the Inlets, together with the proximity of Virginia—made it necessary to keep a strong guard at home, so that we find the names of many of our substantial citizens on the lists of Militia Officers. On the seaside, moreover, was located the Synepuxent Salt Works, to which prisoners from elsewhere were occasionally sentenced to work. The Militia Lists thus grow in importance.

in the case at bar. Polk's counsel were Thomas James Bullitt, Gustavus Scott and Josiah Bayley.

The Chief Justices of the County Court at first sat with two lay associates in each county, but under a further reorganization of the county courts by the Act of 1804, Polk, Done and James B. Robins, of Worcester, became the Fourth District bench. Judge Whittington returned to it as an Associate Justice in 1812, again succeeding Done, promoted to Chief Justice on the death of Polk.

Judge Whittington, noted among the early judges of Maryland for his mental attainments and judicial character, continued on the bench until his death, in 1827, when his place was taken by his son-in-law, Judge Tingle. A quarter of a century later all the appointive judges were legislated out of office by the Constitution of 1851, which changed the circuits and made judgeships elective.

Judge Whittington lived for many years in the old house on Federal Street in Snow Hill opposite the High School and which was built in 1795 by James Round Morris, Clerk of the Court, and now owned by John W. Staton, Esq. The westerly part of Snow Hill lying south of Market Street between Church and Ross Streets had belonged to the Rev. John Ross, Rector of All Hallows Parish, and was divided into lots and sold in the latter part of the eighteenth century by his son Francis Ross. The plat of the Ross town lots is filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court in Snow Hill.

Judge William Whittington's daughter Charlotte married John Walter Smith. They left a son, the late United States Senator John Walter Smith (1845-1925) who married Mary Francis Richardson, whose daughter is Mrs. Arthur D. Foster.

WASHINGTON'S RELATIONS TO THE EASTERN
SHORE OF MARYLAND.

PAUL E. TITSWORTH, PH. D.

East of the lordly Chesapeake are situated nine counties of Maryland, a storied land, one flowing with milk and honey—if the Biblical metaphor may be stretched to cover wheat, tomatoes, oysters, and crabs in abundance,—beloved of every native and dweller, the Eastern Shore. Settled early in the seventeenth century by sturdy middle-class and courtly cavalier stock of purest English growth, this territory was in the middle of the stage during the colonial period and only just off stage, in the wings, during Revolutionary times.

Geographically speaking, the Eastern Shore begins at the Susquehanna River and winds gently about the head of the Bay and stretches away down the Chesapeake for some two hundred miles to Cape Charles, Virginia.

In travelling to and from Mt. Vernon and Virginia and Philadelphia and New York, George Washington almost always passed over the soil of the Eastern Shore. Going north he frequently entered its territory near Perryville on the Susquehanna, going on thence through or staying in Elkton—frequently referred to as Head of Elk—and leaving the Shore near Iron Hill on the Delaware line. Going south, he reversed this itinerary.

His diaries and letters mention a second route he sometimes used when, headed northward, he crossed the Chesapeake from Annapolis to Rock Hall in Kent County. In this event he broke his journey at Chestertown, Kent's county seat, where he ate, or lodged the night, or both. Journeying southward over this route, he entered the Shore either at Warwick or Iron Hill, and, passing through, or staying in, Chestertown, he shipped from Rock Hall to Annapolis.¹

¹ Fitzpatrick, *George Washington Diaries*; Sept. and Oct., 1774 and March, 1791.

His diaries afford no evidence that his foot ever touched any part of the Eastern Shore south of Chestertown, although vague local legends exist to the contrary. The records show that he paid at least six different visits to Kent County.

Washington honored Chestertown especially when, in April, 1785, he attended, as a member of the Board of Visitors and Governors, the third commencement of Washington College.²

Head of Elk, mention of which recurs frequently in the Washington papers of the Revolutionary years, was a landing on Big Elk Creek, a main branch of Elk River which flows into the Chesapeake a few miles below Elkton, in Cecil County. Here, at this strategically convenient yet rather secluded spot, General Washington maintained practically throughout the war a supply depot. Remains of the old wharf can still be seen near the abutments of the present cement bridge just outside Elkton on the Glasgow Road to Wilmington, Del.

From this point stores could be hastened to the north when the British were harrying New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania and south when they threatened Baltimore and northern Virginia.

As the visitor looks at Elk River and its confluent, Big Elk Creek, today, it seems incredible that these two insignificant streams could ever have been of military importance. Yet twice particularly Head of Elk must have seen some feverish activity.

In 1777 Lord Howe embarked troops at New York, sailed with them down the Atlantic Coast, ran in between the Virginia Capes, and came full speed up the Chesapeake to catch and destroy Washington's army and to take Philadelphia. He disembarked his men at Head of Elk, but found Washington informed of his movements. Skilfully the Continental Commander-in-Chief withdrew out of Howe's reach, keeping, however, almost always in sight of the British. At last, after considerable jockeying for position, the American forces withdrew

² Smith, *Life of Rev. William Smith, D. D.*

from Maryland soil and took their stand at the Brandywine.³

Again in 1781, at the time of the battle of Yorktown, while Count de Grasse, the French fleet commander, held off the British at the mouth of the Chesapeake, Washington swooped down the Bay to aid Rochambeau who was worrying Cornwallis. The American General moved from Head of Elk whence he had previously sent orders down the Eastern Shore for boats to convey men and supplies from Baltimore to Yorktown.⁴ The union of the Continental troops with their French allies being more quickly effected by Washington's transporting his men by water, the two armies were able to close in on Lord Cornwallis, administer a decisive defeat, and thus bring the British king to sue for peace.

Evidently Washington looked upon Head of Elk as a military position of considerable importance. When, in 1777, Lord Howe had sailed from New York for nobody at first knew where, the Americans were rather inclined to suppose that the British were going to throw a line of forces across the twelve-mile wide neck of land separating Delaware from Chesapeake Bay waters.

On September 7, 1777, Washington wrote Major General Heath from Wilmington:

"Since General Howe's debarkation in Elk River he has moved on about seven miles; his main body now lies at Iron Hill, and ours near a village called Newport. In this position the armies are from eight to ten miles apart. It is yet very uncertain what General Howe's plan of operations will be. Some imagine that he will extend himself from the head waters of the Chesapeake to the Delaware, and by these means not only cut off the counties on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and two of those belonging to Delaware State but will secure

³ Conrad, "Manoeuvring for a Battle Ground," *Motor Travel*, May and June, 1925.

⁴ Washington Letters for Sept. and Oct., 1781, MS. Division, Library of Congress.

the horses, cattle, and forage of which there are considerable quantities in that country.⁵

Losing the Delmarva Peninsula which provided goodly supplies, not only of grain, cattle, and horses, but also of men and boats, would have been a serious loss to Washington.

More vital than his relations to the terrain of the Eastern Shore of Maryland were, of course, his relations to Eastern Shoremen. A number of the outstanding figures of Washington's life time, particularly from about the opening of the Revolution on,—men of war, men of peace, counselors and coöperators in the great adventure for the independence of the Colonies—sprang from, or were connected with, this trans-Chesapeake country.

One of the glories of the American Revolution was the bravery displayed by the Maryland troops in the ill-starred battle of Long Island when the British drove the Americans out of New York and vicinity, forcing them to retreat down through New Jersey. The Maryland men received Washington's warmest commendation for their costly loyalty on this occasion. Eastern Shoremen played a distinguished part in this fight with the British, the independent companies from Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties making up a considerable part of Colonel (later General) William Smallwood's command. Indeed, Smallwood himself was a son of Kent County.⁶

In thinking of Washington and Eastern Shoremen, one needs to include in the roster of those in whom the General and President was interested and upon whom he relied, the names of James Rumsey, the inventor of the steamboat, the trial trip of which upon the Potomac engaged Washington's keen attention and enlisted his approval;⁷ William Carmichael, a friend of Washington and Lafayette, who was secretary of the American Commissioners in Paris; John Dickinson, whose wisdom and patriotism elicited the remark from the Earl of Chatham

⁵ Washington Letters, MS. Division, Library of Congress.

⁶ Buchholz, *Governors of Maryland*.

⁷ Fitzpatrick, *George Washington Diaries*; Sept. 1784 and Aug. 1785.

"that all attempts to impose servitude on such men must be in vain;" Commodore James Nicholson, one-time ranking officer of the Continental navy; Samuel Chase, signer of the Declaration of Independence, whom Washington appointed associate judge of the Supreme Court of the United States; and William Paca, also a signer, whom the first president chose as district judge for Maryland because he had been a tried and conspicuous patriot.⁸

Chestertown claims as its son Charles Willson Peale who, with Gilbert Stuart, enjoys the honor of most frequently having painted portraits of Washington. Indeed, Peale painted Washington's first portrait in May, 1772.⁹ One of the most famous of all pictures of Washington is that by Peale which hangs in Nassau Hall at Princeton University. The diaries for July 3, 1787, mentioned Washington's sitting for this artist to paint a portrait from which a mezzotint was to be made.

Not an Eastern Shoreman but a man evidently well acquainted with and enjoying the confidence of Eastern Shore folks,¹⁰ who lies taking his last sleep in old Shrewsbury churchyard in Kent County, was General John Cadwalader, whom Washington several times sent down the Shore on most important errands. He was an aide of the Commander-in-Chief. He is partly famous because he gave the *coup de grace* to the disgraceful "Conway cabal,"—which for a time threatened Washington's prestige,—by shooting—not mortally—General Conway in a duel. Conway congratulated Cadwalader, it is said, on his marksmanship, and later, apologizing to Washington, fled the country.

In June, 1786, Washington wrote to James Tilghman regarding his son Colonel Tench who had just died:

"Of all the numerous acquaintances of your lately deceased

⁸ A letter from Washington to William Fitzhugh, dated New York, Dec. 24, 1789, MS. Division, Library of Congress.

⁹ Fitzpatrick, *George Washington Diaries*; May, 1772.

¹⁰ Washington's letter to President of Congress, dated Wilmington, Del., Sept. 1, 1777; MS. Division, Library of Congress.

son . . . I may venture to assert (that excepting those of his nearest relatives) none could have felt his death with more regret than I did, because no one entertained a higher opinion of his worth or had imbibed sentiments of greater friendship for him than I had done . . . Amidst all your grief, there is the consolation to be drawn; that while living no man could be more esteemed, and since dead, none more lamented than Col. Tilghman.”¹¹

Writing to Thomas Jefferson on August 1, 1786, Washington lamented again the early death of his friend. He “was formerly of my family.” (Washington meant of his military family.) He “died lately and left as fair a reputation as ever belonged to a human character.”¹²

High praise this! Through the stately eighteenth century phraseology, one can see the great heart of Washington letting itself go in uttering his sorrow at the untimely death of Colonel Tench Tilghman who had been his aide from August, 1776, to the end of the war. Washington hardly spoke of any man, not a relative, in more affectionate terms.

Although James Tilghman, the father, was a loyalist throughout the Revolution, Tench Tilghman, the son, enjoyed “in an unusual degree Washington’s confidence and esteem.” It appears that Colonel Tilghman wrote more of Washington’s correspondence during the war than any other of the four or five of the General’s aides. To Tilghman Washington assigned the difficult but delightful task of bearing the official news of Cornwallis’ surrender to the Continental Congress.

The trip of Tilghman from Yorktown to Philadelphia, involving a ride from Rock Hall through Chestertown and Kent County to the Quaker City, lacks only a great poet’s touch to become as famous as that of Paul Revere.

One more personality of interest—not an Eastern Shoreman, to be sure, but one whose career is inextricably bound up with life on the Shore—is the Rev. William Smith, D. D., the first

¹¹ June 5, 1786; quoted from Tilghman, *Worthies of Talbot*.

¹² Quoted from Tilghman.

provost of the University of Pennsylvania and a friend of the first President. On December 28, 1778, Washington attended in Philadelphia "the celebration of the festival of St. John the Evangelist by the 'most ancient and worshipful Society of Free and Accepted Masons,' being honored with the chief place in the procession. . . . In the sermon . . . by the Rev. Brother William Smith, D. D., Washington was alluded to as the Cincinnatus of America."¹³ In the procession to Christ Church, Dr. Smith walked beside General Washington.¹⁴

The contacts between Washington and Dr. Smith were likely frequent for Washington was much interested in the University of Pennsylvania and seems to have met Smith often in Philadelphia. On January 19, 1781, Dr. Smith proposed Washington's name for membership in the American Philosophical Society. He was elected.

Again in August, 1789, Dr. Smith appears in the story when he with others presented George Washington in New York with an address from "The Bishops, the Clergy, and Laity of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the states of *New-York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina.*"¹⁵

And once again: General and Mrs. Washington were present in Philadelphia in 1791 at a meeting of this same Philosophical Society when Dr. Smith pronounced an encomium on the lately deceased president of the Society, Dr. Benjamin Franklin.¹⁶

By themselves these facts might point to only a casual relationship between Washington and Smith, yet they will gain in significance in the light of what follows.

The story of Washington's relations to the Eastern Shore remains incomplete without a discussion of his connection with

¹³ Baker, *Itinerary of George Washington*.

¹⁴ Lippincott, "George Washington and the University," in *The General Magazine and Historical Chronicle* of the University of Pennsylvania for Jan., 1926.

¹⁵ Baker, *Washington After the Revolution*.

¹⁶ Baker, *Washington After the Revolution*.

one of the venerable institutions of the Shore, Washington College.

In 1780, Dr. Smith left Philadelphia and settled in Chestertown, Maryland, as rector of the Chester Parish Church. Deeply interested in education as well as in religion and seeing that Maryland boys would longer be hardly welcome at their former haunts in Cambridge and Oxford, he contrived in 1782 to secure local and legislative support for elevating the Kent County School to the rank of college. Of this institution, which had been in existence as early as 1725, he became first president and retained the office for seven years.

A very pleasant chapter in the career of George Washington, that of his thoroughgoing interest in education, is yet to be written. He watched carefully over the college training, first of his nephews, and then of his step-son. He also contributed generously of his means to the support of many educational efforts in the nascent nation.

Dr. Smith, as president of the new college in Chestertown, enlisted Washington's coöperation in his venture. Therefore, in the roster of contributors for the infant college Washington's name leads, like Abou Ben Adhem's, all the rest. In a letter to Dr. Smith, the General expressed great pleasure that the new institution was to bear his name.¹⁷ Washington College enjoys the distinction of being the first educational institution and the only college to possess the name by Washington's express consent.

Furthermore, General Washington accepted a place on the first Board of Visitors and Governors. He presided at its deliberations when, in April, 1785, he attended the third commencement of the college at Chestertown.¹⁸

Over the desk of the president of the college hangs a photostatic copy of an old mildewed diploma which bears witness that, on June 24, 1789, Washington College conferred on George Washington the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*. The

¹⁷ Washington College Catalogue.

¹⁸ Smith, *Life of Rev. William Smith, D. D.*

original of this document may be seen in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress.

That General—just become President—Washington deeply appreciated this token of distinction and esteem from his namesake college may be seen in the letter which he wrote Dr. Smith and the Board from New York on July 11, 1789, after the reception of the diploma:

“Gentlemen: Your very affectionate Address, and the honorary Testimony to your regard which accompanied it, call forth my grateful acknowledgment.

“A recollection of past events, and the happy termination of our glorious struggle for the establishment of the rights of Man cannot fail to inspire every feeling heart with veneration and gratitude toward the Great Ruler of Events, who has so manifestly interposed in our behalf.

“Among the numerous blessings which are attendant upon Peace, and as one whose consequences are of the most important and extensive kind, may be reckoned the prosperity of Colleges and Seminaries of Learning.

“As, in civilized societies, the welfare of the state and happiness of the people are advanced or retarded, in proportion as the morals and education of the youth are attended to; I cannot forbear, on this occasion to express the satisfaction which I feel on seeing the increase of our seminaries of learning through this extensive country, and the general wish which seems to prevail for establishing and maintaining these valuable institutions.

“It affords me peculiar pleasure to know that the Seat of Learning under your direction hath attained to such proficiency in the Sciences since the Peace; and I sincerely pray the great Author of the Universe may smile upon the Institution, and make it an extensive blessing to this country.”¹⁹

¹⁹ Washington College Catalogue for 1844.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, QUEEN CAROLINE PARISH,
HOWARD COUNTY.HENRY J. BERKLEY.

The mother church of St. John's, Ellicott City, Howard County, was Christ Church, located at Guilford, then Anne Arundel County. This Church, known as Queen Caroline Parish, was constituted out of the "heads" of All Hallow's, St. Ann's and St. Margaret's Parishes, themselves constituted by an Act of the Assembly of 1692, comprising all the territory to the northwestward of the Western Bay Shore, in what, then, included the boundaries of Ann Arundel County, extending to the upper waters of the main Patuxent, and to the upper reaches of the South Branch of the Patapsco River.

Queen Caroline Parish was established by Act of Assembly in the year 1728, and covered a wide, and at that date sparsely peopled region. The first church was a frame building of small size, later replaced by a brick one. In 1729 the Parish had the following precincts, later called Hundreds in the vestry records, namely, the Upper and Lower, Winkapen Neck, Upton, Delaway, Elkridge, Huntington and Deliver Bottom, and at a later period Patapsco Forge Hundred.

Most of these names are now lost, and were it not for the mention of the "Folly" as the seat of Charles Carroll in one of the Vestry proceedings, it would be impossible to determine in which Hundred the present Church of St. John stood. As, however, the Manor is no great distance from the church, it is presumable it is located in what was Deliver Bottom precinct.

The duties of a Queen Caroline Vestryman in pre-Revolutionary days were of a much more autocratic nature than at the present writing;—they levied poll taxes of tobacco on the taxables of the parish, or as tobacco decreased, shillings;—they paid the sheriff's wage, appointed inspectors of tobacco at Elkridge Landing on the Patapsco River. Special taxes on each

poll were levied when a new chapel-of-ease was to be built, they collected a poll tax on bachelors by order of the Assembly (1763), they superintended carefully the erection of new buildings and chapels for the parish, and when these were finished, arbitrarily assigned to the parishioners seatings, which sometimes were not in accord with the wishes of those who were to hold them. Furthermore, the parishioners were ordered to attend regularly on Sundays, and if they did not do so were very properly fined. At certain seasons the Vestry sat in Court on the morals of the neighborhood, while the men and women guilty of misconduct were severely admonished of their sins, and in no infrequent instances were ordered to leave the parish. This church is somewhat notable in colonial times for having a female sexton, with the entire approval of the Vestry, but she was a well married woman.

The mother church has had quite a number of notable clergymen officiating within its walls. The first Rector was a Scotsman, the Rev. James McGill, who served the church from 1728 to the time of the Revolution. In 1781, the Rev. James Claggett officiated, followed in 1785 by the Rev. Mr. Nixon. Then there was a gap in the ministry, ended by the election of the Rev. Richard H. Waters in 1841, followed a year later by the Rev. D. Wyatt. In 1846 the pulpit was filled by the Rev. J. B. Barker, a missionary at Laurel, who was succeeded in 1857 by the Rev. A. J. Berger of Pennsylvania. In 1848 this clergyman resigned, and was succeeded by Mr. Waters, who in his turn was again followed by Mr. Berger. At intervals, the officiating minister at St. John's alternated between that and Christ Church. This Church is now closed, the Rev. Mr. Murphy having resigned his charge several years ago.*

The first St. John's Church was, probably, a frame structure, for the growing community adjacent to Ellicott's Mills. The first ascertainable notice of its existence is contained in the Diocesan Journal of 1832, when the Rev. Charles Williams, D. D., the Rector, reports having ten communicants. His

* From the Vestry Books of Christ Church, Queen Caroline Parish.

administration was followed in 1834 by that of the Rev. Hugh T. Harrison, resident at Oakland Mills, who, for a time, presided equally over the affairs of St. John's and Christ Churches. During his administration, however, the connection between the two churches was formally dissolved (1839), and Dr. Wyatt officiated at the mother church.

In 1860, under the rectorship of Dr. Harrison, a new stone building—the present one—was built at a cost of \$8,000.00. Mr. Harrison continued his prosperous administration of the parish until the year 1866, when failing health compelled his resignation, and he retired to live in Baltimore City until his death. At the time of his resignation the church numbered thirty communicants. He was succeeded in the same year by the Rev. W. A. Mitchell.

THE LIFE OF THOMAS JOHNSON.

EDWARD S. DELAPLAINE.

PART TWENTY-THIRD.

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CHAPTER XXVI.

A FRIEND OF THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION.

"So far as the sentiments of Maryland, with respect to the proposed Constitution, have come to my knowledge, they are strongly in favor of it. . . . Mr. Carroll of Carrollton, and Mr. Thos. Johnson, are declared friends to it."—*George Washington to James Madison*, November 5, 1787.

"I shall think myself with America in general greatly indebted to the [members of the Federal] Convention and possibly we may confess it when it may be too late to avail ourselves of their Moderation and Wisdom."—*Thomas Johnson to George Washington*, December 11, 1787.

Although he had asked to be excused from attending the sessions of the Constitutional Convention at Philadelphia, Mr.

Johnson was not opposed in any way to the new plan of Federal Government. Indeed, his conservative temperament, his fondness for system and order, his vivid experience with a weak Confederation—as well as his great admiration for General Washington, who had laid down his sword to take up his pen for Nationalism—all placed Johnson naturally on the side of the proposed Constitution.

The War Governor knew that Washington had presided over the deliberations of the great Convention. And he also knew that such men as Benjamin Franklin, James Wilson, John Dickinson, Roger Sherman, and John Rutledge—outstanding leaders with whom he had served more than a decade before in the Continental Congress—had done the best they could to devise a system of Government that would promote the welfare of the Nation. The Articles of Confederation had been falling to pieces: and Johnson took the view of General Washington and Doctor Franklin that while the Constitution was not perfect in every respect—Washington himself admitted that it was a compromise “tinctured with some real though not radical defects”—it was the best Constitution that could be obtained under the circumstances; and at all events it was the final hope of saving the Union from dissolution.

Furthermore, Johnson was well pleased with the novel scheme of separate Federal and State sovereignties, giving, however, ample powers to Congress, including the power to regulate commerce with foreign Nations and among the several States. And, inasmuch as Maryland was one of the smaller States, he was particularly pleased with Article I, Section 3, which gave equality of representation in the United States Senate. All in all, he was delighted with the work of the framers.

And so, while Johnson had appeared to be indifferent to the form of Government prior to 1787, his interest in the Federal Plan was now waxing stronger. Washington, crying out to the leaders in despair to save the Union from chaos, had already begun his campaign for ratification; and Johnson, who had responded so promptly to his appeals for help during the Revo-

tion, now determined to strengthen his hand in the crucial battle for Nationalism. Congress having submitted the proposed Constitution to the several States, Johnson agreed to serve again in the Maryland House of Delegates, the people's forum, where he could try to strengthen public sentiment in favor of ratification.

During the Summer of 1787, the Federal plan was warmly debated in the press and around the countryside of Maryland; and, as Autumn approached, it became evident that the plan would be an important issue at the elections in all sections of the State. At the same time it was also becoming apparent that the financial and commercial interests of Baltimore—as in Philadelphia and other growing centres of industry—would throw their influence in favor of a more stable Government. Yet, the largest vote in Baltimore for the House of Delegates was received by Samuel Chase, who while regarded at first as friendly to “an increase of the powers of Congress,” was soon to sponsor *conditional ratification*, which was to be employed as the strategy of the Anti-Federalists. Nevertheless, the sentiment among the people appeared to be so “strong and general” in favor of the Constitution that it was believed Chase would be bound to vote for its ratification even if elected to a State Convention.²⁷³

And so, although two of Maryland's delegates to the Philadelphia Convention—Attorney-General Luther Martin and Attorney John Francis Mercer—had left their seats thoroughly disgusted with the Federal plan, and although it was evident that a determined opposition would be made against ratification, the Father of his Country was greatly cheered when he heard that Governor Johnson had joined the camp of the Federalists. On November 5, 1787, the great Virginian advised Madison regarding the sentiment for ratification North of the Potomac. “So far,” declared Washington, “as the sentiments of Maryland, with respect to the proposed Constitution, have come to my knowledge, they are strongly in favor of it; but as this is

²⁷³ *Daniel Carroll to James Madison*, October 28, 1787.

the day on which the Assembly of that State ought to meet, I will say nothing in anticipation of the opinion of it. Mr. Carroll of Carrollton, and Mr. Thos. Johnson, are declared friends to it.”²⁷⁴

While the 5th of November was the proper day for the opening of the Legislature, the House was unable to secure a quorum until the 14th. Thomas Johnson and Abraham Faw, of Frederick County, were in their places when the House convened. The other two members of the Frederick County Delegation—ex-Governor Thomas Sim Lee and Richard Potts, a young lawyer who had accompanied Johnson on his expedition to New Jersey in the early part of the Revolution—were absent. And although the House received a report on November 19th from the Elections Committee—Delegate Allen Quynn, of Annapolis, was again chairman of this Committee and Delegate Johnson one of the members—that Johnson, Faw, Lee and Potts had been duly elected Delegates for Frederick County,²⁷⁵ it does not appear that either Potts or Lee were present at any time during the session.

Once more Delegate Johnson was called on to assist in preparing a great many important measures. Among the more important were bills to secure the payment of imposts and duties imposed by law; to raise the supplies for the current year; to pay the salaries of officials and the other expenses of the State; to provide for the continuance of civil suits in the General and County Courts; and to amend the jurisdiction of the High Court of Chancery.

Johnson also served with Charles Carroll of Carrollton, who was now a member of the State Senate, in making an investigation of a loan of 270,000 florins procured in Holland in 1782, when Matthew Ridley, Agent of the State of Maryland, contracted with Messrs. Nicholas and Jacob Vanstaphorst, mer-

²⁷⁴ *The Writings of George Washington* (edited by W. C. Ford), Vol. XI, page 182. Original letter in the New York Public Library, New York City.

²⁷⁵ *Votes and Proceedings of the House of Delegates*, November, 1787, page 4.

chants of Amsterdam, for the delivery of tobacco within the State. Delegate Johnson and Senator Carroll admitted in their report that the money was obtained from individuals in Holland on the credit of the State, but held that the loan had no connection with the contract and the claim of the Messrs. Vanstaphorst for damages was unreasonable and unjust. Johnson was made chairman of a committee to prepare a measure in pursuance of the report; and a bill was passed repealing the Act respecting the loan passed at the November session of 1785.²⁷⁶

Another assignment that was given to Johnson at this session of the Legislature was to consider a petition from John Fitch for the exclusive right to build and navigate steamboats in Maryland. Mr. Johnson was chairman of the committee, the other members being Gabriel Duvall of the City of Annapolis, James Carroll of Anne Arundel, Jeremiah Nicholls of Kent, and George Dent of Charles.²⁷⁷

Who had been the first American to catch the vision of the steamboat? John Fitch or James Rumsey? This was the question the committee was called upon to decide. Of course, Johnson knew that Rumsey had been experimenting with the principle of steam propulsion as early as 1785, because the inventor had asked him to manufacture copper cylinders for the steamboat in the Fall of that year.²⁷⁸

Fitch, who was a native of Connecticut in the 45th year of his age, had been conducting his experiments at Philadelphia and had demonstrated his steamboat on the Delaware to members of the Constitutional Convention on August 22nd. Fitch now represented that the idea of propelling boats by steam "first struck him" in April, 1785. Johnson thereupon undertook to ascertain when Rumsey first thought of the idea.

²⁷⁶ *Laws of Maryland*, November, 1787, Chapter XXXIII.

²⁷⁷ *Votes and Proceedings of the House of Delegates*, November, 1787, page 3. Committee appointed on November 15, 1787.

²⁷⁸ *Exhibit to Public Document*, 189, 27th Congress, 7th Session.

In the hope of securing definite information on the subject, Johnson sent the following letter of inquiry to Washington: ²⁷⁹

THOMAS JOHNSON TO GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Annapolis 16 November 1787.

Sir.

I happen to be one of a Committee to report on the petition of Mr. John Fitch of Pennsylvania for an exclusive Privilege in this State, similar to what he has obtained in Virginia and several others, to propel vessells through the water by the Force of Steam Engines. I have found a necessity to mention to the Committee a Conversation I had with Mr. Rumsey in the Month of October, I think, in 1785 on the principle he expected to effect his boat Navigation when he told me that he was to gain his first power by Steam. It was so different from what I conjectured and had been led some how to believe that I remarked he had treated you with indelicacy by exhibiting his Model and Experiment before you on a false principle and obtaining your Certificate. He told me that although he exhibited on a different principle to prevent his being traced he mentioned and explained to you alone that he relied on the Force of Steam to gain his first power. I remarked that it was well he did since there might be no other way of protecting his exclusive Right but by recurring to you. In the present Situation of the Committee and with the strongest Desire to do Justice between Mr. Rumsey and Mr. Fitch the Committee request, if that is consistent with your Situation, that you will be pleased to inform me by a Line whether Mr. Rumsey disclosed to you any Idea of gaining his first power by Steam as he asserted to me or not.

I am Sir with great Respect

Your most obedient and most humble Servant,

TH. JOHNSON.

²⁷⁹ *The Papers of George Washington*, Vol. 239, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

Washington replied that while the use of steam was not a part of Rumsey's original plan, nevertheless Rumsey conceived the idea of steam propulsion before it was conceived by Fitch. Washington's reply follows: ²⁸⁰

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO THOMAS JOHNSON.

Mount Vernon, 22 November, 1787.

Sir

The letter with which you have been pleased to honor me, dated the 16th inst, came to my hand the day before yesterday. By tomorrow's Post this answer will be forwarded to you.

Mr. Rumsey has given you an uncandid account of his explanation to me of the principle on which his Boat was to be propelled against stream. At the time he exhibited his model and obtained Certificate, I have no reason to believe that the use of steam was contemplated by him, sure I am, it was not mentioned; and equally certain I am, that it would not apply to the project he *then* had in view; the first communication of which was made to me in September, 1784 (at the Springs in Berkley). The Novr. following, being in Richmond, I met Mr. Rumsey there who was at that time applying to the Assembly for an exclusive Act. He then spoke of the effect of Steam and the conviction he was under of the usefulness of its application for inland Navigation; but I did not then conceive, nor have I done so at any moment since, that it was suggested as a part of his original plan, but rather as the ebullition of his genius.

It is proper, however, for me to add that some time *after this* Mr. Fitch called upon me on his way to Richmond and explaining his scheme, wanted a letter from me, introductory of it to the Assembly of this State the giving of which I declined; and went on to inform him, that tho' I was bound not to disclose the principles of Mr. Rumsey's discovery, I could

²⁸⁰ *George Washington Letter Book*, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

venture to assure him that the thought of applying steam for the purpose he mentioned was not original, but had been mentioned to me by Mr. Rumsey—this I thought myself obliged to say, that whichever (if either) of them was the discoverer might derive the benefit of the invention. To the best of my recollection of what passed between Mr. Rumsey and me, the foregoing is an impartial recital.

Permit me to ask you, my good Sir, if a letter which I wrote to you during the sitting of your last Assembly, enclosing one from Mr. W^m Wilson to me, concerning the confiscated property of (I think) Maj^r Dunlap & C^o of Glasgow ever reached your hands—and if it did, whether any thing was, or can be done in that business. As an Executor of the Will of Col^o Thomas Colvil it behooves me to know precisely what is to be expected from that matter as a large sum is due from that Company to his Estate and I am the more anxious to do it immediately as Mr. Wilson who is concerned in the House of Dunlap & C^o is about to leave the Country.

With great esteem and regard,

I am, Sir
Y^r most Obed^t H^{ble} Servant,
G^o WASHINGTON

Johnson's committee also received an affidavit of a reliable witness to the effect that Rumsey declared as early as the month of March, 1784, "that a boat might be constructed to work by steam, and that he intended to give it a trial." Rumsey's public demonstration, it is to be admitted, was delayed until December 3, 1787; but his steamboat had been ready in March when a rise in the Potomac, pending the the making of repairs to the boiler, brought down a mass of débris which tore the craft from its moorings and badly damaged it. The committee felt that, as Rumsey had conceived the idea of steam propulsion as early as 1784, even if not before, whereas Fitch did not conceive the idea until 1785, according to his own admission, therefore it would not be proper to

grant Fitch's petition and ignore Rumsey, a native of Maryland. On December 18, Johnson accordingly wrote to Rumsey from Annapolis that Fitch's application had been rejected. "I esteem myself," wrote Johnson,²⁸¹ "no ways competent to decide on philosophical or mechanical principles, but if you can simplify the steam engine, render it cheap, and apply its powers to raise water in great quantities, for the purposes of agriculture and water-works of all kinds, or apply the powers more immediately, as has been much the conversation between us at times, every man may easily perceive a vast field of improvement will thereby be opened, which I most sincerely wish you may largely reap the good fruits of."

Governor Johnson's hope that Rumsey would be rewarded was never fulfilled. After securing help from Doctor Franklin and others in Philadelphia, Rumsey went to England where he constructed a new steamboat; but just as he was ready for an exhibition on the Thames the craft was levied upon for debt. Later, when about to deliver a lecture to raise some needed cash, he was stricken ill; and on the night before Christmas in 1792—when Mr. Johnson was serving as Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court—the unfortunate inventor died in poverty. But his name will never die. For the correspondence between George Washington and Thomas Johnson regarding the invention had luckily been preserved; and in the year 1839 Congress adopted a resolution requesting President Van Buren to present to James Rumsey, Jr., the only surviving child, a suitable gold medal "commemorative of his father's services and high agency in giving to the world the benefits of the steamboat." Thus the Government of the United States has officially approved the report presented by Thomas Johnson to the Maryland Legislature in 1787, holding that James Rumsey was the first American who found a method of successfully propelling a vessel by the use of steam.

It was on the 23rd of November, 1787, that the Maryland

²⁸¹ Exhibit to Public Document 189, 27th Congress, 7th Session.

House of Delegates commenced its consideration of the Federal Constitution. On that day Delegate Johnson presented to Speaker Thomas C. Deye a communication from the Governor of Virginia enclosing resolutions of the Virginia Assembly on the subject.²⁸²

After the message from Virginia was read to the members of the House, it was moved that all the Maryland deputies to the Federal Convention—Mr. Jenifer, Dr. McHenry, and Daniel Carroll, the three who had signed their names to the instrument, as well as the recalcitrants, Attorney-General Martin and Attorney Mercer—should be requested to appear in the House on the 29th of the month to give an account of “the proceedings of the said Convention.” Samuel Chase supported this suggestion. And many friends of the Constitution—among them Faw of Frederick—voted with him. Johnson voted against it. It is supposed that he felt the speeches were unnecessary and a waste of time. However, the motion was carried by a vote of 28 to 22. As a matter of fact, there did exist very little necessity for oral reports at this time, because immediately afterwards the House resolved without opposition that the proceedings of the Federal Convention, as transmitted by Congress, should be submitted to a Convention of the people of the State “for their full and free investigation and decision.”²⁸³

On November 24th, Mr. Chase was excused from attendance, as was also his colleague from Baltimore, David McMechen; and the Federalist members of the House—perhaps taking advantage of Chase’s absence²⁸⁴—determined to make arrangements for the holding of a State Convention without waiting to hear from the members of the Federal Convention. Accordingly, on November 26th the Lower House proceeded to arrange

²⁸² *Votes and Proceedings of the House of Delegates*, November, 1787, page 9.

²⁸³ *Ibid.*, page 10.

²⁸⁴ Mr. McMechen appeared in the House on November 29th; but Mr. Chase was absent until December 5th.

special elections for delegates to the proposed Convention. A motion was made that the elections should be held throughout the State on the first Monday in April, 1788. Many of the more ardent Federalists in the Legislature, realizing that prompt action in arranging for a State Convention would give the enemies of the Federal Constitution less opportunity to strengthen their defense, were favorable to having the elections not later than January. Johnson could see no valid reason for delaying the elections until April and he voted against the motion. But it was carried by the narrow majority of one vote—24 to 23. The date of the elections having been settled, it was then decided without objection that the members of the Convention should meet in Annapolis on Monday, April 21, 1788.²⁸⁵

On the following day—November 27, 1787—a slight change was made in the House resolutions. The amendment provided in effect that the approval of the Federal Constitution by a *majority* of the delegates in the Maryland Convention was sufficient to assure ratification thereof by the State. The Frederick County legislators differed in their opinion of the amendment: Mr. Faw being for it and Mr. Johnson against it. Perhaps the ex-Governor felt this was a question the members of the Convention should be allowed to decide for themselves. However, the amendment was adopted by a vote of 28 to 21.

After the adoption of the amendment, Delegate Johnson was designated to present the resolutions regarding the proposed State Convention to the Senate; and he promptly delivered the House resolutions to President Plater on the 27th of November, 1787.²⁸⁶

Meanwhile, the members of the Senate had voted to hold the elections in Maryland on the third Wednesday in January so that the State Convention could convene early in March. The language of the Senate resolution was plainly Federalist

²⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, page 13.

²⁸⁶ *Votes and Proceedings of the House of Delegates*, November, 1787, page 14; *Votes and Proceedings of the Senate*, November, 1787, page 6.

in tone, for while the Lower House recommended a Convention for "full and free investigation and decision" the Upper House voted for a Convention for "assent and ratification."²⁸⁷

On the 29th and 30th, the members of the Legislature heard the reports from the deputies to the Philadelphia Convention. The three Marylanders who had signed the Constitution, while accustomed to public life, were not lawyers, nor did they possess any outstanding ability in oratory or debate. Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer was a capitalist and man of affairs, 54 years of age; Dr. McHenry was only 34 years old, while Daniel Carroll, a farmer, was scarcely over 31.

In comparison with these three friends of the Federal Constitution, Luther Martin, was a powerful figure. A brilliant graduate of Princeton, a forceful orator, a lawyer of ability, Attorney-General of Maryland for about nine years, Martin was now approaching at 43 the zenith of his career. While it does not appear from the House Records that Mr. Mercer—the 28-year-old lawyer who also opposed the Federal Constitution at Philadelphia—was present in the House of Delegates, the Attorney-General was fully prepared to make his vehement arraignment of the members of the Federal Convention. He declared that as soon as he took his seat at Philadelphia he saw that the selfish aggrandizement of the several States—particularly, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Virginia—appeared to be sought after more than the general welfare of America. He feared not only that the large States might increase their power over the smaller ones, but also that the National Government might interfere with those Anglo-Saxon rights for which the Colonists gave their lives and fortunes during the American Revolution. And therefore, he said, he opposed the Constitution "in every stage of its progression." But realizing that his arguments were "fruitless and unavailing," he left the Convention along with several other members before the Constitution was completed. "So destructive," declared Martin

²⁸⁷ *Votes and Proceedings of the Senate*, November, 1787, page 5.

in conclusion, "do I consider the present System [the Constitution] to the happiness of my Country, I would cheerfully sacrifice that share of property with which Heaven had blessed a life of industry; I would reduce myself to indigence and poverty; and those who are dearer to me than my own existence I would entrust to the care and protection of that Providence who hath so kindly protected me—if on those terms only could I procure my Country to reject those chains which are forged for it." ²⁸⁸

But the mighty Martin was unable to stem the tide of Nationalism. Johnson and other influential Federalists in the Maryland Legislature were too well acquainted with George Washington to believe that he was conspiring to increase the power of Virginia and to "subvert the liberties of the United States."

Powerful as he was as lawyer and orator, Martin was sadly incorrect in his opinion of the Federal Constitution. And in his peroration he unwittingly painted a picture of his own future, for some years later the Legislature imposed a tax of five dollars per annum upon every lawyer in the State to keep him from destitution.

Finally, on the 1st of December, 1787, the Senate took under consideration the House resolutions calling for the elections in April. The Senators still preferred to have the elections in January in order to expedite the ratification of the Constitution; but they realized that it was more prudent to adopt the House resolutions than "run the hazard of protracting the session" by adhering to their own resolutions. So they decided to accede to the wishes of the members of the Lower House to hold the elections as well as the Convention in April, 1788. ²⁸⁹

Thus the machinery was complete in Maryland for the consideration of the Federal Constitution. The State Printer was ordered to print two thousand copies of the proposed Constitution together with the Legislature's resolutions while the Printer

²⁸⁸ Jonathan Elliot, *Debates in the Several State Conventions, on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution*, Vol. I, page 344.

²⁸⁹ *Votes and Proceedings of the Senate*, November, 1787, page 7.

at Frederick was directed to print in German three hundred copies of the same for distribution in the State.

The news that Maryland was planning to defer consideration of the Federal Constitution until April, 1788, was somewhat disconcerting to the Federalists in other parts of the United States. Writing from New York under date of December 9, 1787, James Madison, advised Thomas Jefferson, who was now serving as American Minister in France, that the Federalists continued to be sanguine that the new plan would be ratified by the States although opposition was rapidly growing in Virginia and Maryland. "The Constitution proposed by the late Convention," said Mr. Madison,²⁹⁰ "engrosses almost the whole political attention of America. . . . Virginia has set the example of opening a door for amendments, if the Convention there should chuse to propose them. Maryland has copied it. . . . A more formidable opposition is likely to be made in Maryland than was at first conjectured. Mr. Mercer, it seems, who was a member of the Convention, though his attendance was but for a short time, is become an auxiliary to Chase. Johnson, the Carrolls, Gov^r Lee, and most of the other characters of weight, are on the other side."

Meanwhile, the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Potomac Company was held in November, having been postponed several months while Washington, who was President of the Company, was in Philadelphia. It was shown at the meeting that scarcely more than ten thousand pounds Sterling had been paid into the Company by the stockholders, and it was accordingly decided to ask the States of Virginia and Maryland for legislation that would enable the Company expeditiously to compel the delinquent stock subscribers to pay in the balance of their subscriptions. Prompt action in this direction was taken by the Virginia Assembly. Shortly after the measure was adopted at Richmond, Washington appealed to former Governors Thomas Johnson and Thomas Sim Lee—both were

²⁹⁰ *The Writings of James Madison* (edited by Hunt), Vol. V, page 62.

still serving as Directors of the Potomac Company—to urge the adoption of a similar measure at Annapolis. Washington's communication to them follows:²⁹¹

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO JOHNSON AND LEE.

Mount Vernon, December 9th 1787.

Sir,

Presuming that Col^o Fitzgerald according to his promise has communicated to you the vote of the Potomack C^o passed at the last general Meeting, held at George Town, and the measures consequent of it, taken by the Directors, I shall trouble you with no more than the result which you will find in the enclosed authenticated Act of the Assembly of this State.

It is scarcely necessary to observe to you, Gentlemen, that unless a similar one is obtained from your Assembly, during its present Session that the work of Navigation will soon be at a stand. You know what steps have been taken, and how ineffectually, to collect the Dividends from the tardy members. The others think it hard to be further called on . . . until the arrearages are paid up.

To recover these will be a work of immense time under the existing law.

You know best under what form to bring this matter before your Assembly. If by way of Petition you will please to have one drawn, and if it is necessary the name of the President should be affixed thereto I hereby authorize you to give it my signature with great esteem

I am Gentlemen

Y^r Most Obed^t & Very H^{ble} Servant,
G^o WASHINGTON.

Ex-Governor Lee, although legally entitled to serve as a member of the Frederick County delegation, had not been

²⁹¹ *George Washington Letter Book*, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

attending the session of the Legislature; and Johnson, in compliance with Washington's request, at once asked the House on December 11th for permission to bring in a bill giving the Potomac Company more speedy remedy against delinquent subscribers. The House acquiesced and asked him to prepare the measure.²⁹² In advising Washington to this effect, Johnson sets forth his views in regard to the Federal Constitution. He says:²⁹³

THOMAS JOHNSON TO GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Annapolis 11 December 1787.

Sir.

Your Favor of the 9th directed to Mr. Lee and myself and it's Inclosure came to Hand today very opportunely. The Gentlemen of the Assembly purpose to rise next Saturday and preparatory to it resolved in the Morning to receive no new Business after this day. This Circumstance precluded all Formality and Mr. Lee being absent I moved for Leave to bring in a Bill under the same Title as the Act passed in Virginia. Leave was granted and I expect there will be no Opposition in any Stage of it. I think at present to make a small Deviation by giving the President and Directors their choice to prosecute in the County Courts, which will generally be speedier, or in the General Court.

Our Affairs are so embarrassed with a diversity of paper Money and paper Securities a sparing Imposition and an infamous Collection and payment or rather non-payment of Taxes that Mr. Hartshorn's repeated Application to our Treasury have proved fruitless nor can I say when there will be Money in Hand to answer the 300 £ Sterl. due. Some of our Debts are so pressing that a good many of us Delegates feel very uneasy and I yet hope a serious Attempt for an immediate

²⁹² *Votes and Proceedings of the House of Delegates*, November, 1787, page 36.

²⁹³ *The Papers of George Washington*, Vol. 239, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

provision for them and that the Potomack Demand may be included. The present circumstances with respect to the future Seat of Congress, in my Opinion call for vigorous Exertions to perfect the Navig[ation] of Potomack speedily and it is truly mortifying to see so little prospect of being supplied with the essential Means. Surely 5 or 600 Miles of inland Navigation added to the Central Situation and other Advantages would decide in favor of Potomack for the permanent Seat of Congress.

Col^o Fitzgerald wrote Mr. Lee and myself to mention the Time we could meet at Shennadoah to enquire into Complaints against Mr. Steward.²⁹⁴ In his Absence I could only write him that I would attend at any Time that might be agreeable to you and the other Gent[lemen] after my Return home which will probably be the last of next week. I wish Sir your Convenience to be consulted and that it may be convenient and agreeable to you to make my House in your way. Very little Notice of the Time to meet will be sufficient for me and I dare say for Mr. Lee.

* * * * *

The Levon [leaven] of your State is working in ours. The scale of power which I always suggested would be the most difficult to settle between the great and small States, as such, was in my Opinion very properly adjusted. Any necessary Guards for personal Liberty is the common Interest of all the citizens of America and if it is imagined that a defined power which does not comprehend the Interference with personal Right needs negative Declarations I presume such may be added by the Federal Legislature with equal Efficacy and more propriety than might have been done by the Convention. Strongly and long impressed with an Idea that no Governm^t can make a people happy unless they very generally entertain an Opinion that it is good in Form and well administered I

²⁹⁴ Richardson Stuart, who had been chosen in 1785 by the President and Directors of the Potomac Company as assistant to Superintendent Rumsey.

am much disposed to give up a good deal in the form the least essential part. But those who are clamorous [the enemies of the Constitution] seem to me to be really more afraid of being restrained from doing what they ought not to do and being compelled to do what they ought to do than of being obliged to do what there is no moral Obligation on them to do. I believe there is no American of Observation, Reflection and Candour but will acknowledge Man unhappily needs more Government than he imagined.

I flatter myself that the plan recommended [the Federal Constitution] will be adopted in twelve of the thirteen States without conditions *sine qua non* but let the event be as it may I shall think myself with America in general greatly indebted to the Convention and possibly we may confess it when it may be too late to avail ourselves of their Moderation and Wisdom. You will pardon me my good Sir the Effusions which I cannot restrain when on this Subject and believe me to be

With very great respect

Your most obed^t Serv^t

TH. JOHNSON.

Johnson's prompt action in paving the way for the passage of the new law for the Potomac Company was characteristic of him. Indeed, Washington would have been surprised if his appeal had been met with anything but an immediate response. Johnson presented the draft of the bill to the House on December 13th; and, although the Legislature adjourned *sine die* on the 17th, the measure was ready in ample time for Executive approval.²⁹⁵ The correspondence is but another illustration of how Washington relied on Johnson in time of peace as well as in war.

Nor was there anything remarkable about the philosophical concepts which were embodied by Johnson in the above letter to Mount Vernon. Up to the present time in his life, Johnson

²⁹⁵ *Votes and Proceedings of the House of Delegates*, November, 1787, pages 41 and 48; *Laws of Maryland*, November, 1787, Chapter XXV.

had been too busy, too practical, to give much thought to generalizations; but now, at 55, he was approaching that age in life when he was beginning to reflect and philosophize. But, even so, the two platitudes which he included in his reply were in no respect extraordinary. Indeed, they were the common thought of the day.

The first idea—"No Government can make a people happy unless they very generally entertain an Opinion that it is good in Form and well administered"—had been expressed by Benjamin Franklin in his memorable address at the close of the Constitutional Convention at Philadelphia on September 17, 1787, when he urged the members of the Convention to sign the Constitution. "There is no *form* of Government," said the venerable patriot in the address, read for him by Mr. Wilson, "but what may be a blessing to the people *if well administered*. . . . Much of the strength and efficiency of any Government in procuring and securing happiness to the people, depends on *opinion*, on the general opinion of the goodness of the Government, as well as the wisdom and integrity of its governors." It is known that Doctor Franklin sent copies of the address in his own handwriting to several of his friends, and one of these soon found its way into print.²⁹⁶ It is, therefore, possible that Johnson, even though he had been "strongly and long impressed" with the idea, was prompted to pen the words to Washington by the address of the Philadelphia philosopher. It is also possible that both Franklin and Johnson had been impressed by the lines written by Alexander Pope in 1732 in the *Essay on Man*:

"For forms of government, let fools contest;
Whate'er is best administered, is best."

At all events, the thought expressed by Franklin and Johnson is rather commonplace. In all ages, statesmen and scholars have declared that the success of any Government depends upon

²⁹⁶ *The Records of the Federal Convention* (Max Farrand), Vol. II, page 641, note.

the people themselves. Edmund Burke declared: "There never was long a corrupt Government of a virtuous people." Disraeli said: "We put too much faith in systems, and look too little to men." Samuel Smiles wrote in one of his books: "Indeed, all experience serves to prove that the worth and strength of a State depend far less upon the form of its institutions than upon the character of its men." President Roosevelt declared: "I do not care if you had the most perfect laws that could be devised by the wit of man or the wit of angels, they would not amount to anything if the average man was not a pretty decent fellow." Henry Van Dyke, theologian, diplomat and man of letters, says in one of his essays: "Every possible form of Government has been tried, and found both good and bad. They would all be intolerable but for the quiet people who trust in the Lord and do good." And in a treatise on the Constitution of the United States, W. W. Willoughby says: "In every State the very existence of its Government, the extent of its powers, and the manner of their exercise, is ultimately dependent upon the acquiescence of the people."

Likewise, the second platitude in Johnson's reply to Washington—"Man unhappily needs more Government than he imagined"—was in no sense unusual or surprising. Washington himself avowed: "Mankind, when left to themselves, are unfit for their own Government." John Jay declared mournfully: "The mass of men are neither wise nor good." Young John Marshall said: "I fear that these have truth on their side who say that Man is incapable of governing himself." The same view was taken by Hamilton, Madison, and other outstanding friends of the Federal Constitution. It was natural that Johnson accepted the view of the Federalists, because he had believed for a number of years that the people themselves were largely responsible for the country's desperate condition under the Articles of Confederation.

However, the letter penned by Johnson at Annapolis before the close of 1787, shows his prophetic vision. Already, but a short time after the adjournment of the Constitutional Con-

vention, the far-sighted Maryland statesman not only assured Washington that the States would vote for unconditional ratification of the Federal Constitution, but he also looked forward to the day when the Capital of the Nation would be permanently located along the Potomac.

(*To be continued.*)

PEARCE-LEVY BIBLE RECORDS.

These extracts are taken from two old family Bibles which formerly belonged to Judge Moses Levy (1756-1826) the distinguished Philadelphia jurist, and which are now owned by his descendant, Mr. J. J. Milligan, of Baltimore. Judge Levy married, June 21st, 1791, Mary Pearce of Poplar Neck, Cecil County, Maryland, to whom the "Tilghman Letters" now appearing in the *Magazine* were written.

One of these Bibles which contains only a few Levy entries, has wafered in it on a separate sheet, a number of Pearce entries relating to his own immediate family, made by Henry Ward Pearce, Sr. (1736-1828?). The other book is an interesting old Hebrew Bible the entries in which were evidently begun by Judge Levy's grandfather, Moses Levy (died 1728) of New York, and are a full record of this family for several generations. Owing to the great prominence of both the Pearces and Levys in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the records seem worth publishing in full. As a number of the entries in the Pearce Bible are defective or incomplete, where possible the corrections or additions have been added in brackets from the register of Shrewsbury Parish, Cecil County, in which the Pearces lived.

MEMORANDA FROM PEARCE-LEVY BIBLES.

Benj. Pearce married to Margaret Ward, daughter of Henry ward, 1732. [July 31, 1734]

Elizabeth Pearce, first daughter of Benj. Pearce and Margaret Pearce, his wife, born Sept. 29, 17— [Sept. 29, 1735]

Henry Ward Pearce, first son of the sd. Benj. and Margaret Pearce, born 1736. [Dec. 6, 1736]

Benj. Pearce, second son of Benj. Pearce and Margaret, born 1739 [Apr. 13, 1739] and departed this life November 30 following.

Benjamin Ward Pearce, third son of the sd Benj. and Margaret, born Sept. 15, 1740, died September 29, 1743.

William Pearce, fourth son of the sd Benj. and Margaret, born April 8, 17[42] and departed this life Sept. 16, 1743.

Andrew Pearce, fifth son of the sd Benj. and Margaret, born October 10, 1744, and was lost at sea in the year —

William Pearce, sixth son of the said Benj. and Margaret, born Jan'y 14, 1748.

Mary Pearce, second daughter of the said Benj. and Margaret, born 28th ———, 1750. [Aug. 28, 1751]

Margaret Pearce, wife of the above Benj. departed this life June 30, 1755.

Benjamin Pearce, departed this life at Philadelphia, April 9, 1756. [Apr. 10, 1756 in his 45th year]

I, Henry Ward Pearce, son of the above Benjamin Pearce and Margaret Pearce, his wife, was married to Anna Statia Carrol, youngest daughter of Dominic Carrol and Mary his wife, on the — January 16, 1759.

Henry Ward Pearce, first son of the sd. Henry and Anna Statia his wife born June 23, 1760.

Mary Pearce, first daughter of the sd. Henry and Anna Statia, born October 22, 1762.

Matthew Pearce, second son of the sd. Henry and Anna Statia, born August 21, 1764.

Margaret Pearce, second daughter of the sd. Henry and Anna Statia, born Aug. 21, 1764.

Benj. Pearce, third son of the sd. Henry and Anna Statia, born April 12, 1770, and departed this life August 4, 1771.

Anna Statia Pearce departed this life April 20, 1770.

I, Henry Ward Pearce, was married to Rachel Relfe, youngest daughter of Tench Francis and Elizabeth his wife, and Relict of John Relfe of Philadelphia, March 6, 1776.

Maria Pearce, daughter of the said Henry and Rachel, born
——— and departed this life November 22, following.

Benjamin Francis Pearce, son of Henry Ward Pearce and Rachel, his wife, was born Sept. 20, 1780.

The alteration in the birth of the above Benjamin Francis Pearce, was made on the discovery of the mistake by me, H. W. Pearce, and departed this life on the 12th of September, 1782 [1802], at Sea in latitude 43.2 N. Long. 48.24. No vices lurked beneath the mask of candour and sincerity, no meanness ever obscured the lustre of his generosity and benevolence. His thoughts and actions were alike regulated by Honor, truth and Liberality. His heart was a stranger to deceit and his tongue disdained to utter what his judgment disproved and the graces of his person but faintly reflected the innate Beauty of a heart replete with every endearing Quality. This tribute to his memory by his father Henry W^d. Pearce.

Henry Ward Pearce, son of Henry W. Pearce and Anna Statia, his wife, departed this life on the 26th of March 1805 at Col. Richd. Tilghman's in Queen Annes Co. and was there interred. He was an affectionate husband, a dutiful son and an honest man. Henry W^d. Pearce. Rachel Pearce departed this life on the 25th day of Jany, 1808, and was deposited in the family vault of her father.

21 June 1791. I Moses Levy of the city of Philadelphia, son of Sampson Levy, merchant, deceased, and Martha his wife, was married to Mary Pearce, daughter of Henry Ward Pearce, of Cecil County, in the state of Maryland Gentleman and Annastasia, his wife.

1 April, 1793. My daughter, Henrietta Maria was born, she was soon after Christened by Bishop White. In the

winter following she was innoculated for the smallpox and took it.

13 July 1798. My daughter Martha Mary-Anne Levy was born. She was soon after baptized by the Rev. James Abercrombie. She has also taken the smallpox by inoculation.

I was born on the 9th August 1756.

My wife Mary on the 23 Oct^r 1762.

I am the son of Sampson Levy who died on the 23d March 1781.

My mother, Martha Levy died on the 24th March, 1807, aged 76 years.

My Father-in-law, Henry Ward Pearce was born on Sassafras Neck, in Caecil County, Maryland. He is the son of Benjamin Pearce and Margaret, his wife. His father Benjamin died in the city of Philadelphia, in 1756, as he informs me. His grandfather was also named Benjamin.

Margaret, the grandmother of my wife was the daughter of Capt. Henry Ward, who married an immediate descendent of Augustine Herman. Margaret died in 1765 Jan.

Annastasia Pearce, the mother of my wife was the daughter of Dominic Carrol. She died in the year aged

LEVY FAMILY HEBREW BIBLE RECORDS.

(Leaf from an older Bible wafered in.)

My Dear Childrin—or to whichsoever of your hands this may fall into.—

This Book is an Extraordinary Hebrew Bible with annotations or Commentaries on the Text—

It was a favourite Book belonging to My Dear Father & Contained the hand writing of him & My Dear Mother for whom I retain the Greatest Affection notwithstanding the long

time they have been Dead—the former I knew little of but the Latter I well remember—in this Book is by them set down or wrote the names and Birth of all their Childrin, & the Death of Some of them by My Self—I therefore recommend this Book to your Most particular Care as an old family Bible with which I hope you will never part but to your latest posterity—as I regard it for My Parents Sake as well as its being an Extraordinary Book of itself—So I hope you will Show the Same regard & affection to My request that I do to My Parents memmorary—I am My Dear Child y^r Affectionate Father

Samson Levy

New Castle June 4, 1779.

Turn over

My Father Lived in the City of New York in w^{ch} place both him & my Mother Died the former in the year 1728—and the Latter in the year 1740—

My fondness for my Parents made me fond of what they Esteemed. I hope my childrin will have no less affection for me—

Samson Levy

Moses Levy had children by his first wife—Grace was his Second. Grace Levy's children 7.

Rachel born February ye 6, 1719. In London.

Miriam born February ye 5, 1720. In New York.

Hester born February ye 28, 1721. In New York.

Samson born August 19, 1722. In New York.

Hana born August 1723. In New York.

Binjamin born August 1726. In New York.

Joseph born June ye 1, 1728. In New York.

Miriam Levy Died in New York on Saturday Morning ye 4th February 1748/9.

Hannah Isaacs Died in New York Wednesday April 3^d 1751 or ye 5th day of Omer.

Nathan Levy Died in Philad^a. on fryday December 21st 1753 at 7 in ye morning.

Abigal Franks Died in New York Sunday May 16th 1756 in ye afternoon.

Isaac Levy Died in Philadelphia March 1777.

Joseph Levy Died in South Carolina.

This Departed this Life in her 46 year of age Mrs. Grace Hays ye 14th Octo^r 1740.

This day Departed her life Miriam Levy in New York aged 28 years February 4th 1748/9.

Wednesday April 3^d 1751 Hannah Levy or Hannah Isaacs Died in New York.

Fryday December 21st 1753 this Day at 7 o'clock in ye morning My Brother Nathan Levy Died in Philadelphia.

Samson Levy's Son Nathan Levy was born in Philad^a on thursday August 15th 1754 at 45 minutes after ten in the Evening which answers with ye 28th or :5514 by our Acco^t & was Circumcised on ye fryday 8 days after by Jacob Moses of New York—

Samson Levy's Son Moses Levy was born in Philadelphia on Monday August 9th 1756 at aboute half An Hour After Two in the After noon which answers with ye

Samson Levy's Son Joseph Levy Was born in Philadelphia on Sunday December 10th 1758 at half an hour after Eleven in the forenoon it being the 10th Day of the Moon's age—and Died on Fryday March 28th 1760 at half an hour after three in the afternoon.

This day departed this life in her 46 year of her age Mrs. Grace Hays Thursday ye 14th October 1740.

My mother Grace Levy was Marrid to Mr. David Hays of New York who's wife She was at the time of her Death.

EXTRACTS FROM ACCOUNT AND LETTER BOOKS
OF DR. CHARLES CARROLL, OF ANNAPOLIS.*(Continued from Vol. XXI, p. 73.)*January 8th 1744

Sir

Inclosed is an order to the Skipper to Take your Tobacco on the condition therein mentioned at five Shillings Sterling £ Hogshead; for you are sensible that it would not answer to have less than fourty hhd^s. or to stay too long for it.

In case you aprove and put the Tobacco on Board Please to suply the People with fifty pounds of Pork and fifty pounds Bread. . . .

To Mr Joh^h Wordrop

P. S. If you put Less than forty Hogsheads of Tobacco on Board & keep her to Load longer than the above time Promised, I shall be obliged to Charge you Twenty shillings Sterling a Day nor can let the Vessell for less. . . .

January 10th 1744

Sir

I Rec^d Yours very kind and obligeing Letter of this date in which I am very much obliged and for which and your kind Expressions I return sincere thanks, and can with great Truth assure you that I never conceived the least Prejudice on the Action you mention.

Mr Poutrotty no doubt will Endeavour what he can in my Prejudice with the Advice of those he hinted to me, but that I attributed not in the least to you he told me that Mr Ridgely and his Son in Law had offered him money for his Right, this I believe and that he is Prompted by them. Yesterday he offered to Accomodate and Release I paying him Ten pounds & his Costs I refused the Costs but on considering that tho my

Right was Indisputable yet to leave no Room even for a Pretence I Wrote to Mr Bordly to let him know I would pay the Costs Which I Imagined to be about 600 lbs. Tobacco and to draw a Release, since which have heard nothing of the matter till the Receipt of Yours.

I assure you Sir my claim on Young Pouteng is fair and honest and my Right to the Land Independant of his is very clear yet as I have honestly paid for that I ought to have it and I hope that Neither you nor any Gentleman in Maryland will think me capable of so Vile an Action as forging his Fathers hand It happens well that one of the Evidences a man of known honour and Honesty is Living and Perfectly Remembers the Matter and the Other Evidence.

I am sorry that any Expression should drop from Mr Bradley to give you offence, but perhaps the matter has been aggravated by the Young man.

It would be very acceptable to me that Mr Ridgely as your Relation, would behave in a manner becoming a good Neighbour I am sure his conduct herein and to me is contrary and I never deserved the Treatment he gives Champarty and Bar-raty are Very Unneighbourly things.

Pray Sir believe that I am and allways shall be with very great Esteem and Respect.

To Mr Edward Dorsey

This

P. S. So great an Aversion I have to contention or Litigation of any Sort that I will referr the Matter between the Young man & I to you or any other Judicious Gentleman of Integrity. . . .

Annapolis 10th January 1744

Sir

I find by your Weights at the head of Severn that they want 28lb in Each Ton which the Twenty Eight Ton received there, I apprehend will turn out Short. You are Sensible that a

Quarter of a hundred is allowed in every Ton over the Twenty hundred to make up for Sand &c. this will be deducted at the scale in London and I believe you find that freight & Duty Attend the Quantity Nominally shipped and not what it weighs at the King Scales which unless Shipped makes a great Loss.

I desire the favour you will Let Captain Allingham have Two Ton more with the 7 lb deficiency in the 28 Ton to make up thirty Ton I understand you have some of Your own on Board I suppose as all is of a Side it will agree; and one part will not Eat up the other so we shall know if any deficiency Where it Rises.

To Mr Rich^d Snowden, Patuxen Iron Works

Annapolis Maryland Feb. 6th 1744

Sir

I Received yours of the 21st & 29th of November last with my Acc^{tt}. Current, and a Barrell of Limes by Johnson for which Return you thanks These times are very uncertain and Insurence so high, and Precarious that there is no ventureing on Business, and with us the difficulty of getting Masters, or sailors fitt for service makes it Impracticable to do any thing that may answer.

The Ballance I have in your hands I shall take Proper opportunity to have goods for or order it to Richard Bennitt Esq^r. either of which methods you may depend I shall take, which I Request you will observe and of w^{ch} I shall accordingly advise when I do either.

If your Limes in season shall be obliged to you if you'l send me a Barrell of Good ones.

To Coddington Carrington, Merchant Barbadoes

Annapolis in Maryland Ss^t

On the Thirteenth day of February in the year of our Lord God 1744 Came before me Robert Gordon Esq^r. one of the

Provincial Justices of the Province of Maryland Charles Carroll Merchant and made Oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God That on the 25th day of December in the year of Our Lord 1741 he the said Charles wrote a Letter to M^r Samuëll Hyde merchant in London a Paragraph of which was in the following words or to the effect to Wit.

I must also Request that you will procure an Insurance to be made for me of Five hundred pounds Sterling on the schooner Annapolis square Stearned. Burthen Thirty Ton or thereabouts Alex^r. Scougal Master or whoever shall be master at the Port of Annapolis in Maryland and from thence to the Island of Barbadoes there and back again to the Port of Annapolis in Maryland, the Premio of which with your Commission please to Charge to my Acco^t.

And that in pursuance thereof and trusting to and depending on the Faith and Credit of the Insurance aforesaid directed to be made he shipped on Board the same Vessell The Goods mentioned in the Bill of Ladeing, signed by the said Master a true Copy whereof he deposeth to be in the following Words viz^t.

Shipped in good order and well conditioned by Charles Carroll of Annapolis in Maryland Merchant in and upon the Good ship the schooner Annapolis whereof is master Alexander Scougal and now Rideing at anchor in Severn River and by Gods Grace bound for the Island of Barbadoes, That is to say two Thousand Two hundred and nineteen Bushells of Indian Corn, ninety Bushells of Pease, one hh^d of Dry'd Fish, Twenty four Barrells of Bread, Three Barrells of Red Herrings and are to be delivered in like good order and well conditioned to Codrington Carrington Merchant there or to his assigns Freight free, Dangers of the Seas Excepted. In Witness whereof the master of the said Vessel hath affirmed to three Bills of Loading all of the same Tenor and Date one of which being fulfilled the other two to stand void so God send the good ship to her Port in safety. Dated at Annapolis in Maryland March 20th 1741.

Alex^r. Scougal

And that the said Loading contained and cost him the said Charles with the Charges of Collection on Board the Sum of Two hundred Eighty three pounds Eleven Shillings and Ten pence Sterling exclusive of the Freight amounting to one Hundred and thirty seven pounds seven sh^s and seven pence half penny Sterling as by the following Accot.

To 2219 Bush ^s Corn at $\frac{2}{3}$ ster \pounds bushell	249.. 12.. 9
To 90 Bushells Pease @ 2/6	11.. 5.. —
To 448 ^{lb} Dry'd Fish at 1 ^d	1.. 17.. 4
To 3 Barrells Herring at 20/	3.. — —
To 24 Barrells Ship Bread 9 ^s 2538 ^{lb} nett at 12/6 \pounds C ^t	} 15.. 17.. 3
To 24 Barrells and packing	
To 1 hogshead	1.. 16.. —
	3.. 6

£283.. 11.. 10

To the Common Freight of 2309 Bush- ells of Corn and Pease from hence to Barbadoes 18 ^s that Currency which is Equal to 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ^s Ster \pounds Bushell	} 129.. 17.. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
To freight 29 Barrells 1 hh ^d make 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ton at £4— Barbadoes Currency \pounds Ton which is equal to £3.. Ster.	
	7.. 10.. —

£137.. 7.. 7

And the said Charles Carroll Deposeth that the said Vessel with the said Goods on Board as mentioned in the said Bill of Loading and Account about the 24th day of March 1741 Departed from the Port of Annapolis aforesaid on her Voyage to the said Island of Barbadoes and that the same Goods Vessel and Voyage and no other was the goods Vessel and Voyage which he the said Charles Carroll desired the said Mr Samuel

Hyde in the aforesaid Paragraph of his Letter to procure to be Insured, and he the said Charles Carroll, further Deposeth and saith that the said Vessell made no other Voyage than that herein before mentioned until October 1742 after her Return from the former, nor no other in Consequence of or on the Credit of the Insurance aforesaid ordered to be made, Except that in March 1741 herein before mentioned.

And the said Charles further Deposeth That Mr Codrington Carrington Merchant in Barbadoes (to whom the said Vessell was Consigned) wrote to him that the said Goods herein before mentioned were Damaged on Board the said Vessell in her Passage from Maryland to the Island of Barbadoes by stress of Weather and that he had the Cargo Viewed by Mes^{rs}. John Bayly and Paul Bedford Merchants in Barbadoes sometime in May 1742. That in answer thereto the Deponent wrote to said Carrington to transmitt all the Proofs and Papers relateing to the said Dammage to Mr Samuel Hyde Merchant in London who had directions to procure an Insurance on the said Vessell the Voyage.

Sworn before me the Day and
year above Written

Robert Gordon

Annapolis Maryland ss^a.

I John Brice Deputy notary Publick constituted and appointed by the Honourable Edmund Jennings Esq^r. Secretary and notary Publick within this his Lordship's the Right Honourable the Lord Propriet^{ys} Province of Maryland by legal authority duely admitted and sworn dwelling at the City of Annapolis in the Province aforesaid do hereby certifie and attest that Robert Gordon Esq^r. the person signing the Deposⁿ hereunto annexed is one of his Lordship's Justices of the Provincial Court of the Province aforesaid and that to all Depositions before him so made in the said Province and by him so signed of what nature or kind soever they be, full faith

and Credit is and ought to be given in Justice Court and thereout.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto
set my hand and affixed my usual
Seal of Office this.

(To be continued.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

February 8, 1926.—The regular meeting of the Society was held tonight with the President in the chair.

The President read a letter from Mr. Henry May Gittings, presenting to the Society the "Eagle" badge of the Order of the Cincinnati, of General Otho Holland Williams of Maryland, which is one of the first made. President Harris gave a brief and interesting description of the "Eagle" and invited the members to examine it at the close of the meeting.

The following persons, previously nominated, were elected to Active Membership in the Society:

Mrs. Edward S. Hall,	Isaac N. Shipley, Esq.,
Miss Virginia A. Wilson,	Jacob France, Esq.,
Miss Virginia Berkley Bowie,	Edward R. Owings, M.D.,
	H. E. Tabler, M.D.

and to Associate Membership:

Miss Elizabeth Hilleary Beall,	John A. Beall, Esq.,
	H. C. Groome, Esq.

The following deaths were reported from among the membership:

Dr. Bernard C. Steiner, Messrs. Richard Curzon Hoffman, John S. Gittings, William H. Maltbie, Thomas H. Gaither, Charles McFaddon.

Mr. Dielman on behalf of the Publication Committee, read the following resolution, which was unanimously carried:

"*The Maryland Historical Society* mourns the death of Bernard Christian Steiner. For more than thirty years, as member and officer, his tireless industry in the investigation of Maryland History, and his devotion to the activities of the Society made the number of his printed contributions to the story of this Commonwealth unprecedented from the hand of any single writer.

"As editor of the Archives of Maryland he performed for nine years a laborious duty with care and judgment, to the great credit of the State and of the Society which entrusted him this task, and with the applause of all students of American History.

"While at the same time in charge of a complicated public Library system his investigating spirit carried him beyond the confines of the State, as may be seen in his contributions to the Historical Studies of the Johns Hopkins University, in the publications of the United States Bureau of Education, and in the book lists of American publishers.

"The Society joins in the general sadness at the sudden passing of one whose influence was felt at many vital points in the life of the City, but desires especially to record its grateful remembrance of the loyal cooperation and the contagious enthusiasm with which he took part in its historical activities.

"RESOLVED: that this memorial be spread upon the minutes of the Society and that copies be sent to members of his family."

The President referred to the receipt of a gift some time ago from William Power Wilson, of three portraits, being those of John McKim, Jr., Mrs. Margaret Telfair McKim, his wife, and Mrs. Ann Telfair Timothy, the sister of his wife. John McKim, Jr., and his wife were great grandparents of Mr. Wilson. It was reported that this gift had been followed by a donation from Mr. Wilson, of \$500. The following resolution was presented and carried:

"It is the understanding of the Maryland Historical Society that these three portraits are to be held by it in perpetuity and maintained in a suitable manner, with the provision that should the said Society, for any reason, cease to function, these three portraits will be by said Society conveyed to the person then living who shall be, so far as said Society shall be able to ascertain, nearest in descent to said John McKim, Jr., but should it be that two or three persons are then ascertained to be of the same degree of kin to said John McKim, Jr., then said portraits are to be conveyed by said Society to that one of such nearest kin as shall be adjudged by the then President of the said Society to be the individual most fit to care for and preserve the said portraits."

March 8, 1926.—The regular meeting of the Society was held tonight with the President in the chair.

The following persons, previously nominated, were elected to active membership in the Society:

Mrs. John Franklin Turner, Mrs. Jacob France.

and to Associate Membership:

Carroll Sprigg, Esq.

The President stated that after a correspondence of about a year with the Secretary of State, the Society had been granted permission to remove the set of "Standard Weights and Measures" from the office of the State Board of Health, to the fire-proof building of the Society where they would be properly cared for, but they are to remain the property of the State.

The President spoke of the Penn-Calvert Breviate, which through the courtesy of Mr. John W. Garrett had been sent from Philadelphia to the Society on approval. It developed, however, that the Society already had in its possession a very handsomely bound copy of this Breviate.

Attention was called to the two pictures which were put on exhibition in this Society by Mrs. John Ross Key, wife of the artist who was a grandson of Francis Scott Key. One canvas is of the birthplace in Frederick County, Maryland; the other of the residence and law office in Georgetown, D. C. of Francis Scott Key.

The following deaths were reported from among our members: Mrs. Edward Shippen, Mrs. Thomas Baxter Gresham, Mr. J. B. Noel Wyatt.

There being no further business, the President introduced Vice-President Thom who was to read a paper on "A Letter written in 1857 by an American Naval Officer on a visit to Jerusalem and its neighborhood." As Mr. Thom was not feeling well, he asked Mr. John L. Sanford to read the paper for him, which Mr. Sanford did, explaining that the naval officer by whom this letter was written was Commander William May, son of Dr. Frederick May of Washington, and brother of the late Henry May of this city. Commander May died October 10th, 1861 in his 46th year.

April 12, 1926.—The regular meeting of the Society was held tonight with the President in the chair.

Mr. Dielman exhibited a remarkable battle ax or halberd supposed to have been found near where a "Pirate" vessel was sunk off Tangier Island about 300 years ago. The halberd was later to be sent to the Metropolitan Museum for investigation.

The following persons, previously nominated, were elected to Active Membership in the Society:

Dr. John H. Bouse,	J. Marsh Matthews, Esq.,
Dalrymple Parran, Esq.,	Frederick Wm. Wood, Esq.,
Rignal Baldwin, Esq.,	Mrs. Frederick Wm. Wood,
Wm. T. Shackelford, Esq.,	Mrs. John S. McEldowney,
Miss Mildred Law Murdock,	

and to Associate Membership:

Dr. Arthur V. Hargett.

President Harris announced that Commodore Furlong of the Navy Department had come to the Society for information about "Pulaski's Banner" and to see the original banner in our possession. Subsequently a letter had been received from Secretary of the Navy, Curtis D. Wilbur, requesting permission to photograph the banner for exhibition purposes at the Sesqui-Centennial to be held in Philadelphia this year.

The President stated that a number of additional pieces of silverware and furniture had been left to the Society by the will of the late J. B. Noel Wyatt, to be added to the Wyatt Collection already in the possession of this Society. He added that the sum of \$10,000. will be added to the Endowment Fund from the estate of Mr. Wyatt, after the death of Mrs. Nichol and her daughter who receive the income during their lifetime.

The President stated that through the generosity of one of its members, whose name he was not at liberty to disclose, the Society had been presented with a photostat machine. The equipment for the machine will cost about \$300., towards which Mrs. Robert M. Littlejohn, of New York, a life member of the Society, had made a contribution of \$100.

Judge Walter I. Dawkins offered the following motions which were unanimously carried:

"RESOLVED: That the sincere and hearty thanks of the Society be expressed to the donor of the photostat machine for his great generosity and for this renewed evidence of his concern for the prosperity of the Society."

"RESOLVED: That the sincere and hearty thanks of the Society be expressed to Mrs. Robert M. Littlejohn for her generous gift of \$100. towards the lighting equipment for the photostat machine."

The President stated that Miss Eleanor S. Cohen had pre-

sented the Society with a gift of \$1000. to be added to the Endowment Fund as a memorial to her parents Israel and Cecilia E. Cohen.

Mr. Thom made the following motion which was unanimously carried:

“RESOLVED: That the Maryland Historical Society express its sincere and hearty appreciation to Miss Eleanor S. Cohen, for her generous gift of one thousand dollars to be added to the Endowment Fund as a Memorial to her parents Israel and Cecilia E. Cohen.”

It was stated that after a considerable correspondence of about a year with the Secretary of State, this Society had been made the custodian of the historic set of Standard Weights and Measures of the State of Maryland. These are to be kept in the fire-proof building of the Society, but are to remain the property of the State of Maryland.

Dr. Henry J. Berkley stated that the late John H. Alexander, the first State geologist of Maryland, had been instrumental in making the set of Standard Weights and Measures for the State. Mr. Alexander was one of the first members of this Society.

The following deaths were reported from among our membership:

Genl. George F. Randolph, Harry E. Humrichouse.

Judge Walter I. Dawkins presented to the Society on behalf of the estate of the late F. F. Gorgas, a copy of the “Dental Enterprise” edited and published by Henry Snowden, Baltimore, 1858 etc. Part of Vols. 1, 2, 3, 4 and Vol. 2, No. 9. It was moved and unanimously carried that the thanks of the Society be expressed to the donor.

There being no further business the President introduced the speaker of the evening, Judge T. Scott Offutt, who read a paper on “Some Notes on Southern Maryland.”